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KNIVES PLUNGE

By
LAURIE
SCHWAB

Judge the bosses: Scheinflug

Frank Arok became the 13th coach of Australia's national team after the Australian Soccer Federation ruthlessly axed Les Scheinflug last week.

Scheinflug national coach since 1981, was reappointed last November for a one-year period, yet dumped with three months' pay even though he had just won his second Merlion Cup tournament in Singapore.

Under his leadership, the senior Socceroos played 19 games for only five losses, and the national youth team played 33 games for only seven losses.

He was captain of Australia in its 1985 World Cup campaign and assistant to former national coaches Rale Rasic and Rudi Gutendorf.

The only explanation given for his dismissal (and that of his assistant, Paul Blain) is that Arok has the experience of having coached in Europe, and that the defence and counter-attack approach he used while caretaker national coach for the series against England last year is better suited to European opposition than Scheinflug's.

Australia has to qualify against a European team in the next World Cup series, providing it wins the Oceania group.

Arok is the latest in a line of national coaches, which reads: Jim Kelly (1964-65), Tiko Jelavic (1965), Joe Marston (1966), Joe Venglos (1967), Joe Vassits (1967-70), Rale Rasic (1970-74), Eric Worthington (1975), Tony Boggi (1975), Brian Green (1975-76), Jim Shouler (1976-78), Rudi Gutendorf (1978-81), and Scheinflug (1981-84).

It was a disagreement between ASF president Sir Arthur George and Rasic that led to their parting of the ways after Australia had competed in the 1974 World Cup finals in West Germany. Sir Arthur then was instrumental in hiring Brian Green who returned to England after being accused of shoplifting, the inexperienced Jim Shouler under whom Australia finished second last in its World Cup group and Gutendorf who couldn't make up his mind about what team to field from one game to the next.

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Frank Arok was preferred as national coach, said ASF president Sir Arthur George, because Arok's "defence and counter-attack" style was well suited to European opposition.

Scheinflug countered this week: "Every coach, Arok or anyone worth being called a coach — tailors his tactics to suit the opposition. I also defend and counter attack against strong opposition, and Arok, no doubt, would play offensively — as I would — against weaker teams."

The ASF executive declared the coaching position vacant at its meeting in Sydney last Thursday. It then called both Arok and Scheinflug in to talk to them.

"I told them a full-time position was necessary right now, as any part-time coach would be crucified by other clubs, as he'd see most his own players and would be unable to get around to see others."

"As for tactics, I told them I try to persuade players that Australians are naturally-born winners, and I encourage them to go forward because that's the only way you can win. But I stress to defenders that the main thing is not to concede goals, and that when you meet stronger teams, you counter-attack. Also, closing down opponents and other defensive qualities are things that come naturally to 90 per cent of our players anyway."

Asked how he had coped with the months of intrigue leading up to his dismissal, Scheinflug quipped: "Since coming back from Singapore, where we won the Merlion Cup, I've been to hospital on numerous occasions, trying to get knives removed from my back."

"It's time the people who



Les Scheinflug

have made the wrong decisions for 10 years had their mistakes looked at very closely."

"Sir Arthur George employed three coaches (Brian Green, Jim Shouler, Rudi Gutendorf) who were all failures and now, after Australian soccer has got back some of its credibility, I am sacked without reason," Scheinflug said.

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Abonyi as Arok's assistant?

New national coach Frank Arok will appoint four former star Socceroos as his assistants for the international series in May-June.

He mentioned Jimmy Rooney (Green Gully), Peter Ollerton (Macedonia), Attila Abonyi (Croatia) and Manfred Schaefer (Sydney Olympic) as possibilities.

One will be his long-term assistant coach, the others will help during the international series and as advisers in assessing players.

Abonyi is favored to be Arok's No. 1 assistant.

"Although he wouldn't confirm it, Arok said, "He's definitely a possibility. He's one of the upcoming and very capable young coaches in the NSL at the moment."

"We must test the strong and the weak points of every player. We want to know how stable they are, whether they can be coached and motivated, how they react over a series."

We want fitness fanatics with a proven record of being able to stay clear of injuries."

"I have to do a detailed analytical job. I don't want to select players because they have blond hair and blue eyes."

Arok said he expected to name his No. 1 assistant today (Wednesday) and a squad of

about 36 players after the sixth round of NSL matches.

He said he was pleased that the international series — against teams from Scotland, England, Greece and Italy — would present the Socceroos with opposition from four different styles of soccer.

Arok, 52, coach of reigning NSL champion St George Budapest, started his playing career as a left winger or midfielder with Radnicki Kanizsa at a young age. He was born in Yugoslavia of Hungarian parents.

He was a junior with Yugoslav First Division club Spartak Subotica, and then played in the Second Division for Jedinstvo Stara Pazovica in the fifties.

He had a trial with Partizan Belgrade, but wasn't good enough. "There were too many big guns down there, and I was never a big player," Arok says modestly.

A bad injury ended his career. "They cut my Achilles into pieces," is the way he puts it.

So started a spectacular coaching career.

It was as a junior coach with Novi Sad that he got his grounding. That was in about 1957. After one year of that, he was elevated to the job as senior manager-coach, and he took Novi Sad from the Third Division, to the Second and then to the First Division.

"I had 16 years with Novi



Frank Arok

Sad on and off," he says. "They sacked me three times and asked me back four times."

Next stop was Vojvodina, where he was coach for four years, under manager Vujadin Boskov, later to become Yugoslavia's national team manager, and boss of Real Madrid.

With St George Budapest, he's now in his 7th year overall, and his fourth since returning from Yugoslavia in 1981.

One of the highlights of his coaching career was serving on a panel of coaches helping to prepare Yugoslavia for the 1962 World Cup in Chile.

Some of the Novi Sad players he coached who went on to become internationals are Brsic (later with Vojvodina), Pirmajer, Lemic (Sarajevo) and Kozlina (Hajduk).

Jovin, now with Red Star, was with Novi Sad while Arok coached there, and so were present-day Vojvodina players Maric, Gruber, Jovanic and Medic.

Arok's new job is part-time this year and full-time next year year onwards.

— LAURIE SCHWAB

★ ★ ★ \$25,000 — Lewis price tops them all ★ ★ ★



• Paul Lewis signs with SM-Hellas, whose president Leo Anezakis (right) welcomes a new goalscorer, while Green Gully chief Guy Spiteri looks pleased with the \$25,000 fee. Picture by LES SHORROCK

Paul Lewis was signing a contract with Hellas and an envelope stuffed with \$1000 represented the fans' excitement at finally having him at their club.

The wad of banknotes, brought into the Middle Park clubrooms by Hellas president Leo Anezakis, had been collected by the Hellas supporters at JB Smash Repairs of Coburg.

It was reminiscent of the whip-around the Olympic Park terraces which paid the \$10,000 transfer fee of Duncan Cummings back in 1976.

But this time the \$1000 was a mere drop in the ocean; for the transfer deal agreed to by Hellas and Green Gully Ajax makes

Paul Lewis the most expensive soccer player of 1984.

Hellas will pay Ajax \$18,000 in cash and has guaranteed Ajax a minimum of \$7000 from a friendly game between the two clubs within the next three months.

The \$25,000 total is \$3000 more than the price Makedonia paid Heidelberg for Gary Cole last month, and makes Lewis the second most expensive recruit in Australian soccer history, barring overseas transfers.

The most expensive transfer remains that of defender Jim Hermiston who moved from Brisbane City to Brisbane Lions in a \$30,000 package in 1978.

Lewis scored 36 State League goals in just over two seasons with Ajax. His tally of 31 last year was the highest in the State League for at least 20 years.

A Victorian State representative, Lewis

was born in Wales and played in the reserves of English Fourth Division club Chester, Ian Rush, now with Liverpool, sat on the bench of the reserves, playing second-fiddle to Lewis.

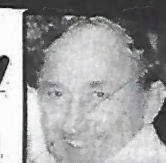
It's been three months since Hellas started negotiating for Lewis. Ajax didn't want to lose him, tempers flared on all sides, and Lewis appealed to the Australian Soccer Federation against the \$30,000 transfer fee initially set by Ajax.

Hellas now boasts the most impressive attack in Australia.

Doug Brown, with 16 goals, was top scorer in the NSL last season and Charlie Egan, apart from having scored 31 goals in two seasons with Hellas, was top scorer in the State League while with Frankston City in 1981.

— LAURIE SCHWAB

THE ANDREW DETTRE COLUMN



Soccer politics can be as devastating as Federal or State politics — and it was in that arena, more than anywhere else, that Les Scheinflug lost his national coach's position.

Actually, many people seriously believe that he should never have had the job in the first place.

Les worked, for some two years, as Rudi Gutendorf's assistant. At first everything went smoothly. However, once Gutendorf's star went into a rapid decline — after the ill-fated European tour — Les was known to be distancing himself from his boss.

When Gutendorf was sacked after the World Cup fiasco against New Zealand, the ASF appointed Scheinflug to replace him — a tactical mistake, in my view.

If Scheinflug had been a loyal assistant, he should have resigned after the Gutendorf sacking. If he wasn't, the ASF should have bypassed him.

But we were in the middle of a World Cup campaign. Panic decisions had to be made

Mexico trip costly

Scheinflug was on hand and the ASF was in no mood to search for a new man. All this was in 1981.

The second fatal error occurred last year. When, due to unfortunate planning, the dates of the World Youth Cup finals in Mexico and England's visit to Australia clashed, Scheinflug made the wrong decision: he opted to travel to Mexico with the Youth team.

This writer, in these very columns, expressed the view repeatedly that Scheinflug's place was with the full national team, not in Mexico.

The ASF left the decision in Scheinflug's hands — and he decided on Mexico.

Little did he realise that with that he would leave his back exposed to a rival coach.

But once again the plans went wrong. Scheinflug openly

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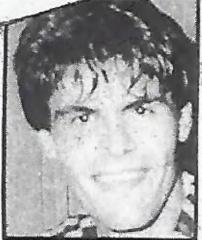
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Thanks to the support of our advertisers 'Soccer Action' awards for top players this year will exceed anything yet offered by a Soccer newspaper.

Boral Bricks will present \$1500 to the top NSL Player of the Year and a further \$1000 to the NSL top goalscorer.

The V.S.F. Travel Club, through Ametco Travel, will give a trip to Europe to the top goalscorer in the NSL National Conference, and a trip to Singapore to the top goalscorer in the Victorian State League.

The best player in the State League, voted on round by round by our writers, will receive \$1000 worth of furniture of his own choice from Shipano Home Furnishers, and one lucky young reader will win a trip to the U.K. absolutely free, from Stephens Sport Travel (see page 2).



• Peter Katholos

The Australian Conference Match of the Day, to be screened on O/28 at 7.30pm this Sunday, features Sydney Croatia and Sydney Olympic at King Tomislav Park (kick off 3pm), two clubs commanding huge support and some exciting players.

Peter Katholos hadn't resolved his disagreement with Olympic as we went to press. Olympic coach Manfred Schaefer has told the Socceroo midfielder that at present there isn't a place for him in the team and Katholos was seeking a move to Melita Eagles.

"I have never been fitter in my life, but my style of football just doesn't appeal to Schaefer. There's nothing I can do about it," said Katholos.

"I must find another club, and soon, or I'll drop out of national team calculations for the whole season."

Olympic reportedly will let Katholos go for about \$10,000 and APIA was tipped to join Melita in the race for his signature.

Schaefer however, has his worries, despite being adamant that he can't use Katholos right now. Olympic, according to Schaefer, was "very slow" against Brisbane Lions last Sunday, as it battled to a 1-1 draw.

Croatia can win this derby, provided Graeme Arnold and Wally Saver get the service their talents demand. That however, will be resolved by the midfield battle which pits Croatia's Marijan Kovacic, Steve Mendes and David Rezo against Olympic's Gary Phillips, Peter Raskopoulos and Jim Patikas.

Croatia coach Attila Abonyi no doubt will be working this week to try and regain the defensive organisation and discipline which was missing as Croatia drew 3-3 with Penrith last weekend.

Abonyi has been praising his defence recently but must have been shocked when Penrith struck three times.

A match highlight will be

TV games for Channel O/28's 'Match of the Day,' Sunday

Katholos to Melita Eagles?

By CRAIG MACKENZIE

the battle between two strong men — Croatia stopper Bruno Vidale and Olympic striker Marshall Soper.

And should Soper get free inside the Croatia area, he then comes up against another hurdle in the form of Croatia goalie Steve Watson, rated by Abonyi as the best in the country.

Olympic could do with an experienced winger to im-

prove the service to Soper and Mark Koussas. That's not a criticism of young Terry Patailis, a player of great promise. However, Soper all too often lacks support up front and although I'm not suggesting Olympic reverts to the helter-skelter attacking approach of old, it would benefit greatly by getting more players forward in support of its star striker.

Maybe Sunday will be the day for Olympic to turn it on.

So far two draws are all it has to show for its NSL efforts in 1984. That won't please impatient Olympic fans and officials and the club will be banking heavily on a win against Croatia to provide a platform from which to launch what it hopes will be a highly successful season.

But I suspect, it will be disappointed on Sunday.

Croatia can record its second win in three NSL games, giving Abonyi a great start to his side's first assault on NSL honors.

Heidelberg chases Halford

Heidelberg United was trying to sign midfielder Carl Halford from South Melbourne Hellas in time for Sunday's National Conference derby at Connor Reserve against Preston Makedonia, to be shown on O/28's Match of the Day show at 7.30pm this Sunday.

But Heidelberg had a stubborn opponent for Halford's signature in Melbourne Croatia.

Croatia spokesman Frank Burin and Hellas president Leo Anezakis held talks last Monday but Anezakis wouldn't name a transfer fee, in the hope that Halford would resolve his contractual dispute with Hellas.

If Halford and Hellas can't come to terms (they were due to meet yesterday, Tuesday) then Croatia was the front runner in the race to sign one of the best midfielders in Australian soccer.

That would leave Heidelberg with an inexperienced line-up against a Makedonia side hungry for success after gaining just one point from two NSL games this season.

Indeed, Makedonia looks set to storm the Heidelberg goal, sadly exposed due to Den Macleod's sending off last

Sunday against Sunshine-George Cross.

And it could be former Heidelberg striking ace, Gary Cole, who causes all sorts of headaches for the visitors.

Ian Dobson should be back in the Makedonia defence after serving a one-week suspension. He'll probably partner Robbie Dunn, allowing player-coach Peter Ollerton to use George McMillan's qualities in midfield. McMillan certainly will give Makedonia bite in this area and alongside Zarko Odzakovic, should continually power the home side forward.

Heidelberg president Sam Gouloupoulos is set to make major changes at all levels should his team go down to Makedonia. Gouloupoulos, not the kind of man to oversee a sinking ship, isn't prepared to allow his club to struggle along all season.

So let's ready ourselves for change. Makedonia will win this clash and win well.

It is far too strong at the back for Heidelberg, should get enough of the ball in midfield to give Cole and Claude Lucchesi chances to strike, and will be really revved up. It all reeks of a resounding win to Makedonia and a rapid revamp at Heidelberg.

MITRE BALL QUIZ

Here are this week's question, the answers to which can be found in our National Soccer Annual, now on sale at our new newsagents, price \$1.50.

The first correct entry received each week wins a Mitre Socceroo ball.

Send your entries to:
Soccer Action Quiz,
603 Little Lonsdale St,
Melbourne, Vic. 3000.

This week's question:
1. Name the Sydney Olympic player shown on the front cover of National Soccer Annual?
2. Where did Western Suburbs finish in the

1978 NSL and how many points did they get?
3. Who scored for Sydney Olympic against Heidelberg in both legs of the 1983 National Cup Final?

4. Who coached Mooroolbark in its only year in the NSL in 1977?

5. Manfred Schaefer made 73 Socceroo appearances. Three of those appearances were in 1968. Against which country?

Last week's winner is: PARI NAOUMI, 138 Moreland Road, Brunswick, 3056. The answers were: 1. P. McCann, Rockingham, 24 goals. 2. Adelaide City Juventus 3. Everton, 1964 4. Four goals 5. Dez Marton.

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Brown's out to match goal king Coe's feat

It was Doug Brown's 87th minute goal in Hellas's 3-2 victory over Sydney Hakoah last year that made Hellas a serious

contender for the NSL title, was no fault of Brown's.

The week after beating Hakoah with that late goal, Brown sank Canberra 2-1 by scoring twice.

The following week it was Brown and his henchman Charlie Egan who beat Brisbane Lions 2-1, and then Brown got the winner in a 1-0 result against West Adelaide Hellas.

With three rounds to go, Brown notched the first goal in a 2-1 victory over Marconi.

Hellas threw away its chance of taking the title by drawing 0-0 with APIA in the second-last round, but there was still plenty at stake for Brown in the last match, against Brisbane Lions in Brisbane.

Before that game, Brown and Sydney Olympic's Marshall Soper had a total of 14 goals each for the season.

A \$1000 cash prize from Boral Bricks for the top scorer of the NSL was dangling before both of them, and Soper thought he'd won it when he scored the winner in a 1-0 victory over Brown's pre-

vious club, Preston-Makedonia, in Sydney.

You can imagine how angry he must have been when he heard that Brown had scored two in a 2-2 draw with Brisbane Lions. And Lions had led 2-0 before Brown cut loose!

So Brown finished the season as top scorer in the NSL with 16 goals, and the \$1000 prize — awarded through "Soccer Action" — came in handy for his honeymoon when he and his bride, Mary, headed for the Barrier Reef.

Brown scored winning goals in five matches last season — against West Adelaide twice — (1-0 and 1-0), Sydney Hakoah (3-2), APIA (1-0) and Canberra (2-1).

Will he be the NSL's top scorer again in 1984, and so match the feat of Gary Cole who was top scorer in successive seasons — 1980 and 1981?

"I hope so," he says, "but as long as we win, I don't care who scores the goals."

Brown (34 NSL goals in three seasons)

By LAURIE SCHWAB

and Egan (31 in two seasons) have been joined now by Paul Lewis, who scored 54 State League goals for Green Gully Ajax in the past two seasons.

How will the three goalscorers be integrated? It didn't work when Hellas bought goalscorer Paul Murphy from George Cross in the early seventies, and it didn't work when Graham French came from Mooroolbark to join Peter Ollerton.

His main concern is to guard his own position, and to help Hellas win the championship.

"I think we can do it this year, even though most of the other teams probably think they can do it too. Our record speaks for itself. We've been beaten only twice in the past 22 games," Brown said.

If Hellas does indeed take the title, Brown will have had a lot to do with it.

He's part of that rare breed capable of winning matches single-handedly through sheer brilliance and power.

He can, and does, score from well outside the box with his cannonball specialities. I've seen him lift the ball over an opponent's head, run around him, beat the goalkeeper, and tuck it over the line. He's particularly deadly when he hits a bouncing ball on the volley, and he's unstoppable when he's got the hammer down, surging past opponents on his way into the box.

What, in his opinion, is his main asset as a striker?

"That's hard. Nothing" (He's a mouth

Charlie Egan is good to play with. He does a lot of running.

"Jim Campbell's a good midfielder, and Tommy Cumming looks like coming back strongly and being a top player, although I never saw him at his best, when he was playing for Australia and Victoria. In the Buffalo Cup he looked sharp, and he was always in there."

"Dez Marton — they're always saying he's going to retire, but he just keeps on scoring. He's been scoring goals all his life, so why should he stop?"

Joe Watson's a good player — they've got lots of them at Sydney City — and Peter Kotholos and Jim Padkas are very dangerous."

Much was written last year about how Brown should be in the national team. Was it a disappointment to him that he wasn't selected?

"I thought I'd have a chance for the Merlion Cup. I think I'm as good as the players in there already, so I was a bit disappointed, sure, but it's all up to the selectors."

"It was strange, though, that there were only three Melbourne players in the squad — Charlie Yankos, Kenny Murphy and Jim Campbell. Hellas almost won the



me on a wing because Peter Ollerton was in the middle," Brown recalls. "I was on the left, and Robbie Cullen on the right."

Brown nevertheless established a reputation as a fearsome goalscorer, and his departure from Makedonia certainly weakened the attack.

"I wasn't prepared to accept the terms they offered me when my contract ran out," Brown says. "When I asked for a transfer, they put \$30,000 on me and it looked like I'd have a lot of trouble moving, but, luckily, Ollerton wanted George Campbell from Hellas, and so they worked out a swap."

Brown is temperamental on the field.



• A dapper Doug Brown (left) accepting a \$1,000 cheque from Boral Bricks' manager Mal Cameron as top NSL scorer in 1983.

BROWN'S SOPER

The race is on again for the NSL's top scorer honor

By CRAIG MACKENZIE

WILL FATE AT LAST BE KIND TO MARSHALL SOPER?

Fate has been more of foe than a friend to Marshall Soper. Consider the evidence.



Marshall Soper shows off the 1983 National Cup.

Then an APIA ace, the big, bony, blackhaired striker is slamming in goals as easily as Muhammed Ali used to slam down heavyweight hopefuls. It's 1982 and Soper is leading the NSL scorer's list.

Until he dislocates a shoulder. He's in limbo for two matches which turn into 10 due to contractual hassles with APIA once he recovers from the injury.

Soper finishes the season with 14 league goals, nine behind John Kosmina's record breaking tally.

Fate hasn't finished with Soper, though. He's with Olympic in 1983 and going into the last round of the league season, tied on 14 goals with South Melbourne Hellas striker Doug Brown. At stake is \$1,000, Boral Bricks' Top NSL Scorer award. Brown scores twice in the last match. Soper scores once, but a hamstring injury forces Soper to be replaced for the last 30 minutes. He walks off disillusioned, knowing that he's taking with him all chance of wrapping up this prestigious award.

"You have to average over 12 goals a season. If you don't you haven't really got the right to call yourself a striker," says Soper.

By self-definition then, Soper is a recognised NSL striker. Signed by APIA in 1981 from Newcastle-based side Stewarts and Lloyds for \$6,000, and flung into the NSL fray, he scored 13 league goals. He's

on the field, but he keeps it modestly but-toned for occasions such as this!

"Maybe my aggression, and my shooting. And I like to run onto the ball, rather than take men on by myself."

Will he outscore Marshall Soper again?

"I never make predictions like that. That we win and create changes is the important thing."

But what does he think of Soper?

"I've seen him only when we've played against Olympic. He seems to use his pace very well, he's good in the air and he's a hard worker."

And what about other players? Whom does he admire?

"Oscar Crino's playing very well; Steve Blair and John Yzendoorn are excellent defenders who let nothing by them, and

increased that league tally by one each season since and in just three seasons has surged into 13th spot in the list of all-time National League scorers.

But he's made only two substitute appearances with the Socceroos, both against New Zealand, early in 1983.

"I've just got to keep putting in the performances. They're going to have to put me in the national team if I keep scoring."

Soper not only has kept scoring in the NSL, he's kept knocking over opposing players. He's recognised as one of the most aggressive strikers in the league.

"Aggression is a very important part of my game. It's always been in my make-up and the NSL has brought it out in full."

"I found out the hard way about taking the knocks and dishing it out."

"I think a lot about the coming match. Sometimes you need to be aggressive, sometimes you don't. Don Macleod at Heidelberg is a very good player as well as an aggressive one. If you let him dominate you, you're not going to do much. You've got to be every bit as committed."

And confident. Another Soper quality, one which he has honed through match experience, too often the only way youngsters learn.

"There are a lot of managers in Australia at the moment. A lot of trainers too. Unfortunately, there aren't too many coaches. Too often young players simply are left to learn things by playing games. I see lads playing first grade football now and people reckon that the lads are doing well because they're playing in such a high standard, but you just know that the lads

league, yet we only had Murphy in there. Makedonia almost won it too — they were leading by seven points at one stage — yet they had nobody in the squad."

Brown's credentials are those of a seasoned campaigner.

At 18, he played at Aberdeen, when Ally McLeod was manager, George Murray (Canberra) was first-team coach, and Eddie Thomson (Sydney Hakoah) a senior player.

Although he scored 33 goals in the reserves, Brown was released when Billy McNeil replaced McLeod so he moved to Clydebank which sold him to Sheffield United for \$70,000.

He had 10 games in the Second Division in his first season there, but Sheffield was relegated to the Third Division, where he scored about 20 goals in his second season.

When his contract expired, his old mate Gordon Flavell contacted him, offering him the chance to join Preston Makedonia.

Brown had two seasons with Makedonia, playing mainly as a winger, although he prefers to be central striker.

"Brian Edgley, the coach, decided to put

He says so himself. It's mainly the referees who make him so.

"In our game against Heidelberg, for example, Charlie Yankos and Ian McKie were fouling us all the time, but the first time Egan did anything, he was sent off straight away," Brown says.

He complains to referees a lot.

"I try to keep them on their toes," he quips.

Has it got him into trouble?

"I got booked once."

"And I got sent off against Sydney Olympic because I laughed at Tony Boskovic."

"I had just been booked for fouling Kotholos, and I knew I'd be out the following week, because I'd been on maximum points. I laughed at Boskovic, and he sent me off."

Brown is optimistic about the new NSL set-up, and expects bigger crowds in Melbourne due to the presence of Croatia and Juventus. He also expects big crowds at the two-leg national final.

"I think Croatia, Makedonia and maybe Juventus will be our main rivals in our league," he says, "and I think St George, Sydney Hakoah and Olympic will dominate the other league."

But he just won't say whether he's going to outscore Marshall Soper...



Marshall Soper hurdles the outstretched leg of an old foe — Don Macleod of Heidelberg United.

aren't going to be coached and they probably won't realise their full potential.

"Mike Trebilcock at Stewarts and Lloyds and Willie Wallace at APIA (now at Penrith) were good coaches."

"Manfred Schaefer's greatest asset is his ability to build you up for big games. Manfred's a real down-to-earth bloke. He finds it very easy to associate with players and that's important."

Soper sees a change in Olympic's playing style under Schaefer, away from the attack-at-all-costs philosophy which dominated the club in recent years.

"We're more negative in that we've tightened up a lot at the back. Our defensive record at the start of 1983 was terrible but we're really tightened up by the end of the season."

"It's inspiring not to concede silly goals, but sometimes I find myself left on my own up front. To be honest, it would be better for me if sometimes I had a bit more support."

However, Soper sees big things for Olympic in 1984, his second season with the club after switching from APIA for \$25,000.

"It's going to be the year of the youngster at Olympic. Micky Coady's the old bloke in the side and he's just 26. It'll be a big year for us, provided we can get stability into all areas of the club."

It also should be a big year for Soper as he strives to win that elusive tag as top NSL scorer. He'll be hoping that fate has no cards left to play.

By CRAIG MACKENZIE

Box Hill can win the 1984 Victorian State League championship.

Polonia, Fawkner and Morwell Falcons won't be far behind and St Albans Dinamo will be up there, battling to grab a spot in the top four.

From the five clubs just mentioned, Box Hill will field the most settled line-up. Add to that the fact that the Hillmen have more depth than any other State League club, and you have the recipe for what should be a very successful season for coach Bill Murray and his players.

Of course, don't forget about organisation and discipline, two important ingredients in every successful side's make-up. Murray will mould these qualities into his team.

Box Hill boasts a staggering list of players with senior experience. This list is: John McKinley, Gary McPhee, Alan Rodhouse, Ian Roodhouse, Donald Brownlie, Donovan Lawler, Dean Hennessy, Andy Hughes, Pedro Ramos, Raphael Underwood, Matt McDonald, Robert McLachlan, David Azzopardi, Ray Tolmie, Keith Valentine, Darren White, Paul Priestley, Peter Vere-

chia, Steve Smith and Brian Keenan.

Murray will have many sleepless nights mulling over selection this season.

Polonia may have defeated Box Hill 3-1 in the recent Buffalo Cup final, but Ian Roodhouse, Brownlie, Ramos and Priestley didn't play and the Hillmen were chasing a quality player from a rival State League club as we went to press.

Polonia has added John Gardiner, Noel Mitten and David Gibson to this year's side. All three bring quality and experience to Polonia, which no doubt will be a formidable opponent.

I don't want to talk about a jinx, but the Buffalo Cup has been far from the springboard to success one would have expected from a pre-season tournament. Instituted in 1982, the Cup first was won by Sunshine City. The competition that year was contested on a league basis and Sunshine was the only undefeated team throughout the seven rounds. Sunshine went on to finish 3rd bottom in State League that year, three points ahead of Northcote and Frankston City.

Croydon won the Buffalo Cup last year. A Peter Loughnane goal in the 90th minute was enough to down South Melbourne Hellas in the final. Croydon finished 4th in State League last year, 15 points behind

Hillmen look good for State title

champion Green Gully Ajax.

So Polonia is out to break what might be regarded now as the Buffalo Cup hoodoo.

Polonia and Ringwood Wilhelmnia are the only clubs left in State League with a State League championship under their belts. Polonia's last title win was in 1981. It has won two State League championships. Wilhelmnia has won one State League title, back in 1959.

Goal difference separated Polonia, in 6th place, and Box Hill 7th, last season. There's not going to be much between them at the end of this season, either.

Fawkner, with newcomers Frank Macleod, Ged Bannan, Peter Boyle and Gary Hobson, is in for a good season. On the flanks are Neil Garvey, bought from Wilhelmnia and Joe Palinkas, while Ian Tuffield and Bruno Cozzella are the two strikers and Bannan and Boyle the central midfielders.

Cesare Fattore will play sweeper, with Macleod as stopper. Hobson has a mortgage on the left back spot but the right back

Likely winners in capitals SATURDAY

Albion Rovers v CROYDON at Selwyn Park, 3 pm.

Frankston Pines v Ringwood Wilhelmnia (draw), at Monterey Boulevard, 3 pm.

KNOX CITY v Northcote at Egan Lee Reserve, 3 pm.

Broadmeadows v MORWELL FALCONS at Laura Douglas Reserve, 3 pm.

SUNDAY
BOX HILL v Western Suburbs at Wembley Park, 3 pm.

Doveton v FAWKNER at Waratah Reserve, 3 pm.

POLONIA v St Albans Dinamo at Raleigh Reserve, 3 pm.

spot probably will be fought out between Michael Giacomi and David Vennaver.

There's also Robert Palmancio to consider. He's played full-back before but looks likely that coach Gus Macleod will be considering the red-headed youngster for a midfield berth.

Morwell Falcons have added striker Russell Athersych, sweeper Gerry Clarke, winger Chris Kent and midfielder Steve Moore to their first team squad and coach Jimmy Dunne was showing interest in Kevin Swinscoe from

Juventus as we went to press.

Morwell had quality players last year but finished 10th. Its squad looks stronger this year and I've got few doubts about the team finishing much higher up the table. In fact, I think Falcons are odds-on to finish in the top four.

Division between the club's Morwell-based and Melbourne-based players has been a problem in the past.

That's something Dunne continually must monitor but if he can engender a great spirit among his players, something that

was sadly lacking last year, then he'll be half-way to success.

St Albans Dinamo, coached by former Soccerroo Bill Vojtek, who will be Dinamo's playmaker in midfield, should establish itself in State League.

Vojtek has a high opinion of central striker John Bruno, who will be flanked by former Melbourne Croatia youngsters Danny Dezic and Ned Batiniovic. This attacking trio will acquit itself well this season.

Croydon has lost the bulk of last year's first team but in new signings Graham French from Juventus and Dave Griffith from Thomastown, it has equipped itself with attacking bite. Alongside Ian Loughnane, a proven State League scorer, this pair should enable the club to challenge for the top four.

At the back, Croydon coach Colin Hasler is likely to rely upon the central defensive pairing of David Singleton and Eddie Ormond, who performed so well in the Buffalo Gold Summer Cup.

It's a bit of a raffle deciding the fate of the other sides. No doubt most observers expect Albion Rovers to struggle after losing Dean Hennessy, Frank Macleod, Chris Ogden, Dave Stuart, Graham Williams and Tom Costello from last year's side. In fact, Albion must be a relegation candidate.

Doveton, Wilhelmnia, Frankston Pines, Broadmeadows, Northcote, Knox and Western Suburbs all will be looking for respectable, middle-of-

the-table finishes. Northcote faces the biggest task, after its president, secretary and treasurer all resigned as the result of a committee battle last week, leaving coach Tony Vrzina to ponder the future of the club, now in new hands.

One player to watch out for this year is midfielder Greg Warszawski, who simply walked into Wilhelmnia and asked if he could train. He played with South Dandenong in the Provisional League last year and from all reports, he's got skill to burn.

Wilhelmnia was hoping to arrange a visa for another newcomer, striker Jim Skaras from Kilmartin in Greece, as we went to press.

Knox youngster Greg House will make his mark in State League this year. He has an outstanding scoring knack, good close skills, a fine turn, and can motor. He's going to be some player! I've seen him play only twice, but he's impressed me greatly. On both occasions, I was reminded of Charlie Egan's early State League days with Frankston City.

With Green Gully Ajax, Croatia and Juventus in the NSL, the State League has evened out this year.

Nothing is certain in soccer but there's even greater uncertainty about the fortunes of State League clubs in 1984. The league lacks the color of having Croatia and Ajax in its ranks but it should lack nothing in terms of its competitive nature.



Peter Boyle (Fawkner)

Dockerty Cup drama

Fawkner went within an inch of joining the list of State League casualties on Sunday after the first main round of the 1984 Dockerty Cup, which was crammed with the drama of sending-offs, penalty misses and stunning upsets.

Locked in a scoreless battle with Metro First Division club North Dandenong, Fawkner was forced into a dramatic period of extra time.

Fawkner's new signings, Frank Macleod from Albion and Gary Hobson from Croydon, both were sent off after clashes involving Dave Nelson and Marko Roggero of North Dandenong.

North seemed certain of causing a major cup upset when player-coach Rob Nelson calmly strolled up to the penalty spot later in extra time. But the experienced Nelson missed

his attempt and within a minute Fawkner's Ian Tuffield had struck what was to be the decisive blow.

And while Metro Third Division club Karingal was bundling Albion out of the cup with a 2-1 scoreline, at Monterey Boulevard, home side Frankston Pines was getting the shock of its life from Metro Fourth Division outfit — Lalor United.

Lalor eventually ran out a 1-0 victor but before missing a penalty and having a player sent off, both in the second half.

Wobbly Wilhelmnia

RINGWOOD WILHELMNIA 3 (Burton 4th, penalty 70th, Alarcon 109th) **EAST BRUNSWICK 2** (Stojcavski 20th, Ruccia 58th) at Wembley Park, Sunday. First game of a Dockerty Cup double header.

RINGWOOD WILHELMNIA: Lee 7, Rammer 6, Verniers 6, Corke 6, Meyer 7, Bakker 6, Warszawski 6, (Alarcon 87th), Burton 6, Stewart 7, Wells 6, Lange 6, (Adams 63rd).

EAST BRUNSWICK: C. Roccolletti 7, Maitson 7, Trafficante 2, S. Roccolletti 7, Serpentine 6, Polite 6, Ciccio 5, Stojcavski 6, (Rocco Lucio 70th), Patschke 7, Serpentine 6, (Bramante 35th), 6 Ruccia 6.

Ringwood Wilhelmnia coach Rudi Van Altena expressed some concern before this Dockerty Cup match began, that his team might be tempted to take the whole thing too lightly.

At half time his misgivings appeared to be warranted as East Brunswick overcame the despair of losing an early goal, to fight back to equal terms at the interval, and indeed take a 2-1 lead in the 58th minute mark.

caught the ball cleverly on the volley, and placed it into the bottom left hand corner of the goal to make it 2-1.

Ringwood tried hard to recover its composure and equalised in the 70th minute when Serpentine was judged to have handled in the penalty area, and it was Barry Burton, scorer of Wilhelmnia's first goal, who smacked the ball into the back of the net from the spot.

Eventually it was left to Alarcon, who had substituted for Greg Warszawski in the 87th minute, to complete the scoring, when he was the spot to ram home a pass from Mark Wells with less than a minute to go.

— MIKE HARVEY

MACLEAN TO JUVENTUS?

MORWELL FALCONS 3 (O'Callaghan 70th, 83rd, T. van Baar 73rd) **COBURG 0** at Egan Lee Reserve, Sunday. First game of a Dockerty Cup double header.

MORWELL FALCONS: White-side 7, Clarke 7, Higgins 6, White 5, Train 7 — Bingham 6, Moore 7, Maclean 7, Kent 6 (T. van Baar 73rd), McGuinness 7, Kasimierz 6 (O'Callaghan 80th, 71).

All the Dockerty Cup results:
Albion Rovers 1, Karingal United 2; **Broadmeadows 2 Sandringham City 0**; **St Albans Dinamo 5 Hawthorn 0**; **Polonia 5 Altona City 0**; **Western Suburbs 3 Yallourn 1**; **Northcote 2 Springvale City 1**; **Ringwood Wilhelmnia 3 East Brunswick 2**; **Box Hill 2 Dandenong Rovers 0**; **Doveton 4 Langwarrin 1**; **Frankston Pines Lalor United 1**; **Albion Gate 2 Mornington 1**; **Croydon 2 Yerraville 1**; **Morwell Falcons 3 Coburg 0**; **Knox City 1 Thomastown 4**; **South Oakleigh 8 Prahran Slavia 0**; **Fawkner 1 North Dandenong 0**.

Knox hammered!

KNOX CITY 1 (Tunstall 26th) **THOMASTOWN 4** (Lakic 32nd, 62nd, B. Coyle 40th, DiMartino 77th) at Egan Lee Reserve, Sunday. Second game of a Dockerty Cup double header.

KNOX CITY: McTurk 6 — Dixon 6, Smith 6 (sent off 35th), Blasinger 5, Roddis 6 — Keenan 6 (Russell 62nd), Tunstall 7, Murray 6 — Healey 5, Masters 5 (Gurney 67th), House 6.

THOMASTOWN: Rizoni 6 — Constantine 7, Adams 7, Acovski 7, Constantine 7 — Watters 8, Comar 6 (sent off 35th), Mainenti 6, B. Coyle 9 — Lakic 8 (Fragale 80th), DiMartino 6 (Dallas 80th).

This thoroughly deserved win left Thomastown looking like the team to beat in Metro First Division this year.

Bad goalkeeping by Rizoni allowed Knox to open the scoring in the 26th minute. Tim Tunstall's half-hit shot was pushed up into the air by Rizoni. The ball dropped in behind the Thomastown keeper and into goal.

Rumor has it that Morwell is set to swap Jim MacLean for Juventus midfielder Kevin Lloyd.

It took Morwell 70 minutes to break down the resolute defence of Coburg. It was quite a surprise to see Morwell using a 4-4-2 system against an average Metro Second Division side.

Neither side impressed in the first half but all credit to Coburg for holding out.

But a superb Brendan Lakic goal in the 32nd minute wiped out Knox's lead. Brian Coyle's corner was met on the volley by Lakic from the edge of the area and the ball was sent whistling low into the net.

Referee Jim Dale reacted quickly to a punch-up between Smith and Comar in the 35th minute, sending off both players.

Five minutes later Thomastown took the lead. Tony Mainenti's corner was volleyed by Coyle. Stuart McTurk got a hand to the ball but couldn't stop it going into the top corner to make it 2-1.

Strikers Lakic and DiMartino combined in the 62nd minute to give Thomastown a two-goal cushion. DiMartino made a break on the right and crossed for Lakic to jump, in between two defenders, and head down firmly past McTurk.

Lakic broke on the right in the 77th minute. He played the ball inside to Mainenti who passed to DiMartino and his low, first time shot went in at the near post.

— MICK MITTEN

Until the 70th minute, when MacLean picked up a clearance from a corner and played the ball to Steve Moore. His pin-point diagonal ball across the area was chested down by John O'Callaghan and drilled into the far corner of goal.

Two minutes later, Tony van Baar struck. He made a break on the right, rounded Lee then rolled the ball into the bottom right hand corner to make it 2-0.

With seven minutes left O'Callaghan broke through the middle and completed the scoring.



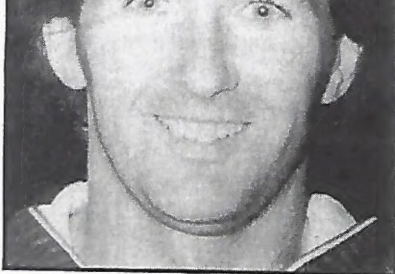
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Sensational debut by Jim Campbell



Jim Campbell — signed by Melbourne Croatia from Heidelberg for \$22,000.

**Adel. Juve 2
Melb. Croatia 3**

Scorers, Adel. Juve: Rankin 17th, DeVito 76th; **Melb. Croatia:** Brogan 52nd, Biskic 55th, Cumming 55th.
Venue: Norwood Oval.
Cautions: Cumming (Cr), Adams (Cr), Maxwell (AJ).
Referee: J. Ross 7.

Melbourne Croatia bought Jim Campbell from Heidelberg for \$22,000 on Saturday, and he was the architect of this emphatic victory on Sunday.

In midfield, he was everything that Villani and Carter couldn't possibly be.

Campbell brought players into the game. He wasn't selfish with the ball. There always was some thought behind his disposal.

Adelaide Juventus took the lead after only 17 minutes, but Campbell initiated the equaliser with a well-timed cross for David Brogan to tuck away easily in the 52nd minute, and Croatia scored twice more in the next three minutes!

Juventus's early lead had been achieved through a header by Peter Rankin, but Adelaide Juventus never looked to have the game under control.

It was Croatia that looked the more disciplined and cohesive team.

While Juventus attacked in bursts, Croatia was constantly on the offensive and had the better of the midfield exchanges.

Croatia's strikers always looked dangerous whereas Juventus's offered little nuisance.

Juventus held onto its tenuous lead until six minutes into the second half when Croatia burst into life and grabbed hold of the match as it had always threatened to.

Juventus was punished dearly for a slow, unimaginative and uninspired midfield. Charlie Villani had the pace of a tortoise and his close ball skills just weren't there.

Les Carter had the audacity to attempt the role of midfield general but he had neither the qualifications nor the ability. Instead he served only to put his team-mates under pressure with some sloppy lofted passes.

The midfield collapse exposed a Juventus defence that had been held together only by some desperate work by Neville Flounders and, to a certain extent, fullback Paul Shillabeer.

Three times in as many minutes Melbourne Croatia struck . . . as it had threatened to do for most of the game until then.

By FRANK PANGALLO

Man of the Match:
JIM CAMPBELL
(Melb. Croatia)

Croatia just seemed to spring into life. They exploded past dumbfounded and flat-footed Juve players.

For Croatia's second goal, Josip Biskic — along with Cumming Croatia's most penetrating forward — made a great run down the right and moved into the box to put away a Lewis cross.

A minute later Cumming, who had to endure wild lashings of soccer boots snapping at his ankles, couldn't believe his luck when he was left alone and easily slipped the ball past aed McNally in the Juve goal.

The game was all over by the 56th minute although youngster Pat de Vito gave Juve fans faint hope with an easy goal after 76 minutes.

Croatia deserved to win. It looked and played like the better team from the start. It has a tough uncompromising defence, creative midfielders and penetrating strikers.

Juventus on the other hand hasn't improved all that much since last season.

Coach Edmund Kreft (who was at the game due to his work commitments) has attempted to instil style, rhythm and poise back into Juve. It won't work because he doesn't have the personnel to make it work.

Right now Juve needs two good players — attacking midfielders with the flair of a Perin and the devastating finish of a Deans.

It is interesting to look back on Juve's golden days in the NSL when its line-up had the combined talents of Perin, Muniz, Marocchini in the middle and Dixie Deans the destroyer in attack. Since those players departed the scene, Juventus has been struggling and will continue to do so with its current squad.

Juve's football director Bob D'Arati is off overseas later this month. His destination is Italy and his quest is a player of the calibre of Graziani, Bettiga or a Conti, on a guest basis and another on a more permanent basis.

The crowds will surely stand back then for there's pitifully little for them now.

Italian supporters are the most fickle. It was amazing to see just how they turned on their young charges in the Croatia game.

On a positive level, it was Juve's biggest crowd in two seasons . . . and although largely due to the fact it only cost \$2 a head, it was well promoted.

Maybe there's one solution to this complexing problem of crowds. Are crowds paying too much? I think they are.

Kojic available

Milan Kojic is available on a free transfer from Fawkner. Kojic, a striker formerly with Vipers, clubs Olimpia Vinkovci, Rijeka and Jedinstvo Brcko, joined Northcote in 1980. He switched to Footscray J.U.S.T. in 1981. Kojic can be contacted at home on 480 6554.



Brisbane City star Frank Liddell (right) battles for the ball against Chris Bekiaris of Footscray J.U.S.T. Picture by LES SHORROCK

J.U.S.T. succumbs to Brisbane City blitz



Craig Mackenzie

Man of the Match:
FRANK LIDDELL
(Brisbane City)

**J.U.S.T. 2
Bris. City 3**

Scorers: McDowell 30th, Belic 45th (J.U.S.T.); Liddell 59th, Mountford 61st, Scriggins 64th (BC).
Venue: Schintler Reserve.
Cautions: Mountford, Hughes (BC), Belic (J.U.S.T.).
Referee: Stuart Mellings 9.

Brisbane City blitzed Footscray J.U.S.T. with three second half goals in five minutes to record a stunning 3-2 victory.

The J.U.S.T. players who stroled about confidently in the first half, dominating their opponents, should have been swabbed at the end of the game. They were the same players who were left shellshocked by the almost schizophrenic turnaround in the performance of the Brisbane side.

Everything worked for J.U.S.T. in the first half. Jim Tansey played some superb balls forward and rarely was under pressure as sweeper. Gary McDowell took time off from shackling Bob Mountford to open the scoring with a great near post header from a Ken Taylor corner. Brian O'Donnell was combining well with Zdravko Ljivic down J.U.S.T.'s left, and Vlatko Belic, playing in a central striking role, put J.U.S.T. in a seemingly impregnable position with a goal right on half time.

J.U.S.T. fans and officials started talking about top four prospects during the interval. No doubt Brisbane City coach Joe Gilroy was talking, in much harsher tones, to a team which didn't get enough of the ball in midfield and looked inept up front and at the back.

I don't know what Gilroy said, but it certainly worked. J.U.S.T.'s second half effort was pathetic. It had loaded in the second half against Preston Makedonia the previous week. Here it's players simply clocked off at half time and weren't prepared to work.

Suddenly, that same inept Brisbane City midfield won a lot of the ball. More importantly, it got players forward, and free, an indictment of the off-the-ball marking from J.U.S.T.'s midfielders. And Ljivic, who had given young Luciano Fabrizio a torrid time in the first half, was left in Fabrizio's wake as the younger star charged forward time and again in the second half.

Lee Scriggins hadn't done much in the first half. Neither had red-headed midfielder Kenny Swan. Their second half efforts were outstanding, however.

Frank Liddell, Brisbane City's fine stopper and clearly the best player afield, made it 2-1 in the 59th minute when he escaped Belic's marking to head in at the near post from a Fabrizio free kick on the right.

Two minutes later scores were level. J.U.S.T. was in disarray.

Gary Bromfield pounced on a poor trapping attempt from Igor Hazabent and set off toward goal. He pushed the ball too far ahead on the edge of the J.U.S.T. area but luck was on his side. Tansey tried to clear but struck the ball into Bromfield's shins. The ball ricocheted across the face of the J.U.S.T. goal to unmarked Mountford and the mg man made no mistake.

Three minutes later, Scriggins got the winner. Bobby Hamilton shielded well inside the J.U.S.T. area, got a turn in a played the ball to Swan. He tried to get a shooting angle but failed. He succeeded, however, in playing the ball back to Bromfield whose shot was deflected to Scriggins and the youngster with the Adam Ant style, struck a low shot inside the near post to make it 3-2.

In the youth game, J.U.S.T. beat Knox City 3-0, with two goals by Tony Clayworth and one by Tony Marchett.

Snarling Lions shock Olympic 1

**Brisb. Lions 1
Syd. Olympic 1**

Scorers, BL: McDonagh 21st, SO: Soper 7th.
Cautions: Hunter (BL), Raskopoulos (SO).
Referee: Alan Kibbles 7.
Venue: Richlands.

Brisbane Lions winger Jim McDonagh netted his first National League goal to give Lions a well-deserved 1-1 draw with Sydney Olympic at Richlands.

It has taken the former Airdrie player nearly 12 months to make the breakthrough and on his present form it could well be the first of many.

McDonagh came to Lions early last season but played only a handful of games before becoming injured and losing his spot with Simon Kistemaker as coach McDonagh never regained a permanent NSL place and he spent much of last year playing in the Lions reserves.

But the skillful Scotsman maintained throughout that he was good enough to play NSL and returned from the off-season one of the fittest in the Lions squad.

He has been scoring regularly in pre-season matches and it came as no surprise when he found the net against Olympic.

McDonagh, playing on the right wing, ran above his marker Graham Jennings to head home a well-placed Phil Redmond cross in the 21st minute.

That goal negated the 7th minute lead taken by Olympic when Marshall Soper ran through a flat Lions defence to take a Peter Raskopoulos pass and streak away to score.

Although the scores were still level at full time, Lions clearly deserved to win. It was only some brilliant goalkeeping from Olympic's Peter Wilson and some thoughtless shooting by the Lions strikers that stopped the home team from registering a big win.

Although Wilson made at least six spectacular saves, Lions made his job easier by putting their shots either straight at him, or close enough to parry away.

Very seldom did the short keeper have to be fully stretched.

But the number of chances Lions created must be pleasing for new coach Harry Noon. Noon in fact switched tactics at a team meeting about an hour before the match. Originally he had planned to play tight and rely on quick breakaway to score against Olympic.

But after watching a video of Olympic's clash against St George, Noon decided to attack, sensing Olympic may crumble in the face of competitive tackling and waves of players moving into the box.

Noon's decision to send Lions on the attack was further reinforced by the absence of Peter Katholios from the Olympic squad.

Although Olympic coach Manfred Schaefer refused to comment on why the Socceroo had been left in Sydney, Olympic president Jim Petinellis said there was a "contractual dispute".

"The player is not on the transfer list, but he hasn't started the season on the best of terms. Peter is the same every year as far as contracts



Ricky Rosso

are concerned," Petinellis said. Despite the absence of Katholios, who was a successful substitute against St George the previous week, Olympic started with plenty of spirit, and when they went ahead after only seven minutes, a big score looked likely.

But Lions, superbly marshalled by new captain John Stewart, refused to give and fought doggedly for the equaliser.

And once McDonagh netted his goal, the Olympic midfield, which until then had dominated — seemed no longer interested.

Peter Raskopoulos was the only player who tried to win the ball but he was fighting a lone battle against the keen, ball-hungry Lions.

Lions slowed the pace to suit themselves and soon sensed that Olympic was flagging. The home side pushed players forward from all parts of the ground, and the Olympic back four struggled. Fullbacks Graeme Jennings and Martyn Rogers, normally tough competitors, were hiding. Tony Dakos appeared on his own in the middle.

Redmond, who is beginning to develop a good partnership with Danny Wright and McDonagh, was revelling in the extra space and weaving his way through the Olympic defence with a series of one-touch passes.

The big man, rejected by Canberra Arrows, set up Wright in the 39th minute but Dakos cleared off the line. Seconds later young fullback Steve Jackson, who was outstanding on both sides of the field, fired a shot that skimmed across the face of the crossbar.

It was an exciting session for Lions and by the half time whistle, there had been at least three good scoring chances for the home side.

Lions began the second half in the same vein and nearly scored with a McDonagh header and then another shot after only three minutes.

Further chances fell to McDonagh and Redmond in the 63rd and 65th minutes. While Olympic's sole chance came from a good attempt by Mark Koussas. But new Lions keeper Wayne Evans was alert to anything Olympic threw forward and is set to make a name for himself this season.

Lions lost Redmond with a knee injury in the 68th minute which caused a major team reshuffle. Jackson went to left back to allow substitute Peter McClurg to play on the right, Alan Niven moved to midfield and Russell Stewart switched to striker.

But rather than upset the home team's rhythm, it seemed to spur Lions on and Stewart and Niven combined to go precariously close to scoring on two occasions.

With seconds to go, and the game certain to end in a draw, Lions were frustrated even

Man of the Match:
STEVE JACKSON
(Brisbane Lions)

further when a penalty appeal was turned down.

Dakos appeared to take the ball on his elbow, and fend it away, but the incident occurred in a huddle of players and referee Alan Kibbles and his linesmen were obviously unsighted.

Several players did not even appeal.

The final whistle went shortly after and undoubtedly it was a lucky Olympic which walked off with a point. In fact, the way Lions are playing at the moment — using Noon's style of one-touch passing — a draw could turn out to be a good result for a visiting team at Richlands this season.

REVENGE!



George Streeter

Man of the Match:
TOM MCCULLOCH
(Marconi)

**Marconi 1
Blacktown 2**

Scorers: 2nd Sandy (0-1), 6th Jankovics (1-1), 73rd Began (2-1).
Marconi Stadium
Referee: Peter Ramplsey 6
Yellow Cards: Joe Rizzotto

Blacktown will long remember its first entry into the National League. The side was hammered at Marconi Stadium.

In fact with 20 minutes to go Marconi had nine goals on the scoreboard! It was a vastly different story this time for the Demons in their "second coming" into the National League.

Stuart Selva and Gary Byrne, ex-Marconi were now wearing Demons colours, but that looked hardly enough to stop the might of Marconi. What with James in goal, the best young fullback combination in the country Carter-Rizzotto, and Henderson, Tom McCulloch, Spanos, Jankovics, Brown, Licata . . . all with international experience, it looked only a matter of time before Marconi would seamp its neighbors.

However, from the moment Sandy put Blacktown ahead there was always doubt about Marconi's ability to get the

points in this match, and it was once again the midfield which let Marconi down. Tommy McCulloch had a great game but one man's efforts weren't enough.

Adam Sandy, Demon's acquisition from England, was fouled early in the piece and Blacktown was awarded a free kick just outside the area. Gary Byrne (ex-Marconi) took the free kick and Adam Sandy was there to head it home for the opening goal of the match.

Four minutes later Marconi replied. Rod Brown was tripped on the edge of the box and this time the free kick went Marconi's way. Renato Licata slammed his shot hard at goal but Barry Hoare managed to parry. Alas, only to Mark Jankovics who had it past the goalkeeper in no time.

Bruce James, ex-Blacktown keeper, was in superb form. His acrobatic save from a John Larkin thunderbolt, then Adam Sandy's penalty shot certainly kept Marconi in this match.

Brett Thornthwaite came on for Burke in the 65th minute and this paid off for the Demons. He was at the start of the move which resulted in the winning goal for the visitors. He pushed it wide to Phil O'Connor, a cross followed and Byrne was there to punish his old club.

IRVINE FOR SALE

Steve Irvine has been transfer listed, at his own request, by Victorian club, Croydon.

The former Doveton strike is a quality player and has a maximum transfer fee of \$4000 on his head. Irvine can be contacted at home on 51 7100.

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Cotton the point pincher



Alex Vesic

Penrith 3 Syd. Croatia 3

Scorers: Wotherspoon 29th, Jackson 41st, Cotton 89th (PC); Savor 25th, Arnold 28th, M. Kovacic 52nd (SC).
Venue: Cook Park.
Cautions: Rezo (SC).
Referee: Graham Warne 9.

Penrith City showed exceptional character to come from behind and snatch a point from Croatia before 3500 spectators at Cook Park.

After 28 minutes, Croatia led 2-0 and looked set to destroy the home side. Drago Rezo took a corner kick in the 25th minute floating the ball to the far post. It fell for Graham Arnold but the tall striker swung at the ball and missed. Wally Savor came into play, and connected, making it 1-0 to Croatia.

Three minutes later Penrith came forward but left itself wide open at the back. Rezo was the start of it all once more. His through pass was measured to perfection, leaving Arnold a free run at goal. As Gibson came out, Arnold stuck his shot wide of the keeper, then did a "lap of honour" for a fairly large Croatian support at the ground.

"We relaxed after leading



Sydney Croatia's Wally Savor (centre) raises his arms in triumph after scoring his team's opening goal against Penrith last Sunday. Croatia striker Graham Arnold (No. 9), is about to join in the celebrations. Penrith's Dave McIntosh (No. 5) and goalkeeper Mike Gibson (No. 1) are stunned. Picture by ALEX VESIC.

Man of the Match: WALLY SAVOR (Syd. Croatia)

2-0, then again, after leading 3-2," said Atti Abonyi after the match.

Coach Abonyi knew best. His team did relax, but worse still, it attempted to protect a 2-0 lead at the time when it should have gone all out to destroy its opponent.

Penrith hit back almost from the kick-off in the 28th minute. From a melee inside Croatia's penalty area, Ian Wotherspoon had two goes at the ball before hitting it straight at Steve Watson, but hard enough to deflect off the keeper's arms and into the net for the first goal by Penrith in the National League.

In the 41st minute Penrith was on equal terms. Peter Brogan crossed from the right and Ian Hunter came in with a

miscued header but firm enough to find Brian Jackson and Watson was beaten again. Steve Meades missed a sitter almost from the kick-off to the second half then Vidaic latched onto a corner kick by Kirwan to head under the crossbar but Gibson was there to save.

With seven minutes gone in this period Croatia went ahead. Wally Savor fought hard on the right hand side for space then crossed. Gibson put his arms around the ball then let it slip, allowing Marjan Kovacic to walk the ball into the net to make it 3-2.

For some strange reason Croatia drew back once again. Those busy midfielders came back into the last line of defence and allowed Penrith to pick up a lot of the ball and put pressure on Watson's goal.

But despite all the space that Penrith got it looked as if Croatia would run away with the match until a last minute effort by Roy Cotton. After receiving the ball on the edge of the area, Cotton waltzed past two defenders before slotting his shot past Watson to make it 3-3.

Gouloupoulos wants 2, Macleod sent off

Heidelberg 1 S. Geo Cross 1

Scorers: McLaren 43rd, Patterson pen. 87th.
Venue: Olympic Village.
Sent off: Macleod (H) 50th.
Referee: Jim Fearn 8.

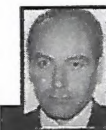
Don Macleod gets his marching orders, Heidelberg president Sam Gouloupoulos wants two class players to strengthen the squad and coach Brian Garvey ponders the strange things which occur in soccer!

At the end of a rather disappointing game, the Heidelberg president was quite adamant, that unless two class players are signed (and soon), Heidelberg will be struggling in the NSL this year.

Heidelberg lacked cohesion and direction for most of the match, and was somewhat lucky to snatch a point with Scott Patterson's penalty in the closing minutes against a team, which, at this stage, cannot be regarded as anything but average.

As I see it, Heidelberg lacks a midfield general, someone who can dictate proceedings and assist the younger players and a striker with more penetration and positional sense than the forwards currently at its disposal.

George Cross should never have dropped a point, and was punished for a basic tactical error. Instead of moving the ball quickly with accurate passes to the feet, it either slowed the game down to such an extent, that with extra effort, Heidelberg was able to compensate for its numerical disadvantage, or played tentative 50/50 balls, allowing Heidelberg to challenge and gain possession.



Ken Kontra

Man of the Match: IAN MCKIE (Heidelberg)

Heidelberg started the match well and in the first 15 minutes looked dangerous, getting behind the George Cross defense, particularly on the left flank where Patterson found a lot of open territory to operate in.

However, final passes went either astray or were intercepted by George Cross defenders.

Allan Contini had a good game, dealing confidently with high balls lobbed into the goal area. Steve Richardson had the measure of Steve Winn for most of the match. Jim O'Reilly provided good cover, consequently, the Heidelberg forwards were unable to break through the middle, where it counts.

George Cross gradually came into the match, mainly through its midfielders with McLaren playing well and Roger Bain covering a lot of territory. Carl Gilder was well held by Don Macleod (literally), the latter being spoken to on several occasions by Referee Jim Fearn and eventually

shown the yellow card in the 36th minute.

Ossie Latif, who was well marked by Ian McKie, finally broke clear, capitalising on a bad pass from Macleod, but put his shot just past the post from 10 metres in the 34th minute.

In the 43rd minute, McLaren decided to go it alone, beat three defenders, and expertly lobbed the advancing goalkeeper. This was a fine individual effort and a superb goal.

Shortly after the start of the second half Heidelberg was reduced to 10 men, when referee Fearn decided to put an end to the Macleod-Gilder confrontation. With the departure of Macleod, Joe Angele dropped back to mark Gilder, and Theo Selemidis, who was playing on the right flank, moved into midfield.

George Cross despite its one man advantage, was put under a lot of pressure by Heidelberg, which lifted its game considerably.

McKie had an excellent game at right back. In addition to his defensive duties, he overlapped at every opportunity. This created problems for Chris Taylor.

In the 55th minute, Heidelberg should have equalised. McKie took the ball to the goal line and his low cross found Steve Winn, who was standing three metres from goal, straight in front. The former Marconi striker managed to deflect the ball past the post, when it would have been easier to score!

Three minutes from the end, when it looked certain that George Cross would notch its first NSL victory, Richardson handled inside the area and Patterson equalised from the resultant penalty.

Perhaps justice was done, as neither team did enough to deserve both points.

APIA 1 Melita E. 2

Goals: 1-0 Caban (9min) 1-1 Allan (41min) 1-2 Farrugia (67min).

Cautions: Davies, Johnston. Referee: Rob Davies 7.

Let us, for a change, show more than an ordinary modicum of charity; it was almost impossible to expect a lot from these teams in the sudden heat-wave conditions.

The 22 players, from the distance of the grandstand, looked like little peas in the vast Henson Park cauldron where some 29,000 of the 30,000 available places remained directly unfilled.

And even in that small crowd, there were more Melita fans than APIA Leichhardt supporters who, clearly, have not yet been lured back to the game.

APIA's early goal failed to cause too much commotion; the game remained patchy and scrappy for most of the first half.

But it was a well taken goal. Gray's powerful freekick from some 28 metres bounced off McPherson's arms and Terry Caban rushed in to slam home the rebound.

More than half an hour of uneventful soccer passed before Melita mounted a truly clever attack — and evened the score.

Man of the Match: JOHN DAVIES (Melita Eagles)

Farnsworth laid on a ball for Davies, who, almost from the byline, lobbed the goalie — and of the three unmarked, waiting Melita strikers, Allan jumped highest to nod home the easiest of goals.

This did improve in the second half — and with the exception of the last 10 minutes or so, Melita was in control.

Despite this, the chances fell to APIA: In the 50th minute Tredinnick, in the 57th Morsello and in the 64th Brady missed from close range.

Not so, Melita's international Ray Farrugia in the 67th minute the constructive, scheming John Davies played in the ball from the left and Farrugia's low volley, grazing the grass, found its way into the corner from 20 metres, eluding many lunging legs.

McKie could have made it 3-1 in the 83rd minute but his header from a few metres sailed harmlessly over the bar.

It was, to put it mildly, a most forgettable match: no doubt under cooler conditions both teams could have done better.

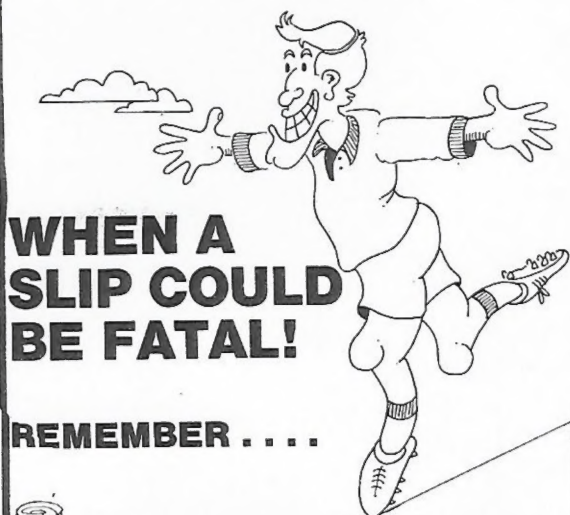
Even so, Melita impressed with its cohesion and style; this team, labelled as the NSL's "reject Rangers," showed glimpses of very fine touches.

Leichhardt was dreadful: no style, no pattern, no penetration and few ideas. Obviously the blood-letting was too great: the patient is suffering from anaemia and may need urgent transfusion to survive.

Farrugia wins it for the NSL's 'Reject Rangers'



Andrew Dettre



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HAKOAH FAR TOO SLICK

Wollongong 1 Hakoah 3

Referee: Loran 7
Cautions: Gaffney, Bundalo, Vietstra (W); Lynch (H)
Venue: Wollongong Showground.

Scorers: Kosmina, Boden, Kerr o.g. (H), Bundalo (W).
It took former champion Hakoah half an hour to subdue Wollongong's gallant but grossly inexperienced players.

But when ace marksman Kosmina headed in an equalizer for Hakoah there was only one team in this disappointing match in Wollongong.

The home side had taken a shock lead after two minutes through the gifted midfielder Bundalo.

But Hakoah, parading fearless striking trio Murray, Kosmina and Boden, was not to be denied.

Kerr and Watson began to dominate the game from midfield, spraying a flow of telling passes to the expert strikers.

With Wollongong midfielder Gaffney unable to find his feet in a sweeper's role and defender Willis lacking the class to make an impact in the middle of the park, the writing soon was on the wall for

Man of the Match: JOHN KOSMINA (Syd. City Hakoah)

Adrian Alston's boys. On the half hour Boden went past Green and Gaffney on the left flank and served Kosmina with a precise cross.

The soccerroo striker obliged by heading in the equalizer past Tilsed.

In the second half Hakoah ran riot and after piling up the pressure on Tilsed's goal, Kosmina got hold of a bad clearance and shot at goal.

His shot hit defender Kerr and finished in the back of the net.

Soon after, Boden effected Hakoah's coup de grace by shooting home the third goal from close range.

As Hakoah continued to indulge in shooting practice, disgruntled Wollongong fans made their way quietly out of the Showground.

Surely, they are in for a long and hard winter, if the weekend game was anything to go by.



Philip Micallef

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Hellas recruit Paul Lewis (front), takes the ball past former team-mate Paul Beranic. Picture: LES SHOR-ROCK

Finally, Brown beats Denys

Green Gully 0 SM-Hellas 2

Scorer: Brown 69th and 83rd minutes.
Venue: Green Gully Reserve.

Cautions: Hogben (GG).
Referee: Evan Venios 6.
Goalkeeper: Lou Denys did everything possible to bring about an upset result but without similar commitment in attack, Green Gully eventually succumbed to the brilliance of Doug Brown.

Oscar Crino had a relatively quiet game, but one pass was enough to turn the game. He played that pass in the 68th minute, lobbing the ball forward for Brown to run onto. In doing so, Brown left Ron Kremers behind, before slotting the ball low past Denys inside the far post.

Seven minutes from the end, another forward pass from Crino out wide on the right, was deflected off Paul Wade, which suited Brown fine, for he dashed past Stuart Cennell, and faced Denys on an angle. The shot landed inside the far post, but only with the help of a bounce which beat Denys who, nevertheless, got his fingertips to it on its way past him.

Had it not been for Denys, Brown would have ended the match with a hat-trick. No other goalkeeper would have stopped a sliding shot from Brown, which was going in just under the bar in the 15th minute. Denys, however, leapt acrobatically to push it over the bar.

And so Doug Brown outshone Hellas's star recruit, Paul Lewis, making his Hellas debut against the club that just had sold him for \$25,000.

Lewis always was dangerous, but he too was foiled by Denys, and he also missed an open goal in the second half. In the 40th minute, Lewis headed a cross from Brown from inside the goal area, but Denys managed to block it. Danger still threatened, and Denys had to recover quickly, and leap to punch the ball away. It landed for Carl Halford who, however, shot too high.



Peter Scott

St George 2 Canberra 1

Venue: St George Stadium.
Scorers: Petrovski (St G) 68th, Perinovic (C) 79th, Marton (St G) 48th min.
Referee: Ronnie S.
Cautions: Redmond (C), Barton (B).

Defiance was the keynote of St George Budapest coach Frank Arok at the end of 90 minutes, which must have made him wish that he was in an easier line of work.

"All of Australia knows what our style is, following our championship win last year," he exclaimed.

"So, they try to play against us with eight-man defences. 'Well, we won't change our methods just to suit them. We will continue to play to win.'"

This determination paid off for the proud Hungarian club last Sunday — but only just. What Canberra coach Doug Collins thought of the outcome is anyone's guess, as a quarter of an hour after the final whistle his team's locker room was still off limits for those interested in finding out.



Laurie Schwab

Man of the Match: DOUG BROWN (Hellas)

Two minutes from the end of the game, Lewis ran onto a forward ball from Ken Murphy. Denys came out to the edge of the area towards Lewis, who shot way over the bar. In an earlier attack, Lewis had raced clear, but Denys had dived to turn the shot past the post.

Lewis was slotted into the Hellas team easily because striker Charlie Egan was out suspended. Egan's back against J.U.S.T. on Sunday, while Carl Halford is unsettled, because he hasn't agreed on new terms yet.

Ajax's best scoring chance was a header by Ron Kremers, from a David Smallman free kick, in the 34th minute.

But Ajax had no bite up front. Ken Smart battled gamely without effect, but David Smallman never was in the firing line, and midfielders never got near goal.

In the youth game, Hellas beat Green Gully 1-0, with a goal by Theo Mitsou in the first half.

Match details:
GREEN GULLY: McKenna 6 (G. DeFreitas 6, half time) — Tyquin 7, Kurbasa 7, Munter 8, Lupa 5 (M. DeFreitas 6, 8th) — Ghirzi 7, Micevski 6, Hale 6, Sant 5 — McClelland 6, Kadecik 6.
HELLAS: Turudia 7 — Kasdis 8, Postecoglou 8, Anezakis 8, Vardanis 8 — Kasmeris 6, Kiakos 9, Kalogeros 7 — Pasakos 6, Mitsou 8, (inj sub Mermingas 80th), Karipidis 7.

Kaiser praises Makedonia after Newcastle win

Newcastle 1 Makedonia 0

Scorer: Brandt 85th.
Venue: International Sports Centre.

Referee: Terry Sancy 5.
A Simon Brandt goal gave Newcastle KB United its second successive NSL win in a year which has seen the club lose players of the calibre of David Lowe, Howard Tredinnick, Bob Mountford, Gary Watson and Grant Lee.

Makedonia, the big spender of the NSL with Graham Heys, Gary Cole, Robbie Dunn and Ian Dobson joining in the off-season, has yet to record a league win but, if Newcastle coach Ken Kaiser is right, Makedonia won't have to wait long for that first success.

"Preston was a far different side to what I had expected. I thought that it would come here happy with a point but it



Joe Lanzoni

opened up and attacked us, and deserves a lot of credit for that approach," said Kaiser.

"Preston will be right up there at the end of the season. Make no mistake about that. They're a good side."

Kaiser also was full of praise for his team.

"There is a terrific match-up among these players and they're going to take some beating," he said.

Man of the Match: CLINT GOSLING (Newcastle)

the ball across the goal line. Three superb saves from Newcastle goalie Clint Gosling kept the visitors at bay in what was an extremely entertaining match. Indeed, it was Gosling in the final minute, who denied Heys with a great reflex save and kept the points in Newcastle.

John McQuarrie did some brilliant things both in defence and in attack for Newcastle and was unlucky not to score early in the second half when his shot went just wide of the post.

Makedonia coach Peter Olerion was disappointed with the lack of finishing finesse shown by his players.

'Eight-man defences' won't change Arok

Petrovski, Ricoy win it

Man of the Match: TONY FRANKEN (Canberra)

Nor did he make an appearance outside the barred door.

The Arrows came so close to snatching the point they were looking for, but, ironically, they can probably blame themselves for not being in the race for two points for most of the match.

With their negative tactics, the first half was almost wholly the preserve of a far from convincing Budapest.

The visitors concentrated almost wholly on breakaways — without any success.

Tony Franken had plenty of opportunities to impress new Soccerro boss Arok, as he was kept busy between the sticks.

The appearance of substitutes changed the complexion of the game, with Budapest's replacements immediately making their presence felt.

First the elegant Peter Petrovski came on for Andrew Koczka, who was clearly out of his depth on the day.

Within three minutes he was following through on a Robbie

Slater move. The winger attempted a shot which rebounded off a Canberra defender, for Petrovski to hammer past Franken from 15 metres for the first goal.

Interestingly, the Arrows seemed more inspired by this break than the home side. Marko Perinovic, on for only eight minutes in place of Phillips, was quick enough to stab the ball into the net when goalkeeper Terry Greedy dropped it.

The Arrows could have won nine minutes from the end, when Frank Farina cut the ball back sharply from the right wing, beating everyone, including the unmarked Perinovic, standing right on the line.

The coupe de grace was finally delivered in the 84th minute when with almost his first touch of the ball young Pedro Ricoy ran into open space, cleverly drawing a desperate Franken, before slipping the ball to Dez Marton.

The veteran could hardly believe his luck as he calmly pushed the ball into the yawning emptiness of the Canberra net.

Brennan bids \$5000

Canberra Arrows' transfer-listed striker Tony Brennan has bid \$5,000 to buy out his own contract.

Since being transfer-listed Brennan has rejected bids from four clubs to acquire his services.

Twice Blacktown bid \$12,000 and bids were also received from Brisbane Lions, Newcastle and Inter-Monaro.

Brennan, apparently, doesn't want to leave the national capital, having recently become engaged to a Canberra school-teacher and having bought a house.

His bid to buy out his contract is said to be because if he decides to leave Canberra he can do so on his own terms.

PETER WINDSOR

Westad went to wrong ground



Peter Desira

Juventus 1 West Adel 1

Man of the Match: Gary Sproul.
Referee: Chris Bambridge 8.
Cautions: McGachey, Rogers.

Juventus (Vic) coach John Margaritis expressed disappointment over referee Chris Bambridge.

"We deserved one if not two penalty decisions and generally I thought he had a bad game," Margaritis said.

"But that doesn't take anything away from our disappointing performance and I still can't figure out how we can miss so many simple chances."

Yet from where I was sitting I thought Bambridge had a fair game, not falling for unfair claims for free kicks and allowing the game to flow as much as possible.

Indeed if it hadn't been for Bambridge using the advantage rule, Juve might never have got its equaliser.

Robert Cullen was certainly fouled as he lined up to shoot but he kept his feet and, with Bambridge waving play on, the midfielder got his goal with his second shot in the 75th minute.

Man of the Match: GARY SPROUL (West Adelaide)

The goalscoring move was started with a free kick by Richard Miranda. The ball was headed on by Joe Sweeney for Cullen who shrugged off the tackle, had his first shot blocked, swooped on the rebound, sent two players wrong way with a dummy, and planted the ball firmly in the net.

The equaliser subdued the cat-calls from the stands calling for the substitutions of both Joe Sweeney and Gary Ward, both of whom will want to forget this match as quickly as possible.

Both tried desperately hard to get on the scoresheet but neither created much impression against the cool defensive performances of Neil McGachey and Graham Honeyman.

When they finally did break that barrier, Sweeney missed the most glaring open goal he is bound to come across for some time, heading over the bar from point blank range with the keeper in no man's land after Cullen had cleverly chipped over his head.

That was the only error by Gary Sproul who gave an otherwise flawless performance, stopping difficult shots from Andrew Zinni and Gary Ward among others.

West arrived at the ground late, but the heavy Moomba traffic had nothing to do with their delay — they had gone to Heidelberg's Olympic Village by mistake.

Most of the players changed in the taxis on the way to the right ground, although Graham Honeyman may have been trying to set a new trend, wearing a necktie and club blazer over the West Adelaide strip on the way in.

The lightning tour of Melbourne however did not seem to affect the players unduly and West took the lead after 23 minutes with their first real sortie on the Juventus goal.

George Konstandopoulos scored the goal, ramming in the loose ball after Sean Keogh could only parry the first shot from McGachey.

Billy Rogers was one of the better players of the game, filling the centre back role as if he had been playing it for years.

Juve's best player however was Richard Miranda, who worked tirelessly in midfield, supplying plenty of ammunition for his forwards as well as winning many tackles and practically taking every set piece the team had.

The midfielder fell awkwardly in one of the challenges, landing on his elbow and had his arm in a sling after the match. But he said afterwards it was more of a precautionary measure and there is little doubt that he will be playing this weekend.



Vic. leagues kick-off Saturday

The Victorian Metro, Provisional and Amateur Leagues kick off their 1984 season this weekend.

Here are this week's selections, with likely winners in capitals:

METROPOLITAN DIVISION ONE

Saturday: Altona City v. SPRINGVALE CITY; DONCASTER ROVERS v. Nunawading City; NORTH DANDENONG v. Sunbury.

Sunday: Altona City v. Bell Park (draw); MELBOURNE v. Richmond; Kew Park Rangers v. MORELAND; THOMASTOWN v. Werribee.

DIVISION TWO

Saturday: Dandenong City v. North Geelong (draw); Caulfield City v. Sandringham City (draw); Eltham v. Waverley City; COBURG v. Ringwood United; Heidelberg Bundoora v. SOUTH OAKLEIGH; KEILOR v. Prahran Slavia; MORNINGTON v. South Melbourne Mordialloc.

DIVISION THREE

Saturday: PRAHRAN CITY v. Hamlyn Rangers; ROYAL RICHMOND v. Mooroolbark; Ardeer v. MOORABBIN CITY; Brighton v. KARLNGAL UNITED; YALLOURN v. Geelong; BULLEEN v. Essendon City; CORIO v. Port Melbourne.

DIVISION FOUR

Saturday: EAST BRUNSWICK v. Holland Park; Border United v. YARRAVILLE; CLIFTON HILL v. Springvale United; ROSEBUD v. Greensborough; HAWTHORN v. Rosanna; Keysborough v. Langwarrin (draw); Ferntree Gully v. LALOR UNITED.

PROVISIONAL DIVISION ONE

Saturday: BALLARAT v.

Boronia; CLARINDA v. Shepparton City; CHELSEA v. Monash University; CLAYTON v. Carlton; HAWKSBURG v. Melton; MALVERN CITY v. Central City; West Brunswick v. WEST GEELONG.

DIVISION TWO

Saturday: ABBOTSFORD v. Nunawading United; BERWICK CITY v. South Yarr; CHELTENHAM v. South Dandenong; CRANBOURNE v. Regent; FITZROY CITY v. Altona United; Geelong United v. Pascoe Vale (draw); Kyneton v. UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE.

DIVISION THREE

Saturday: MOSSFIELD RANGERS v. Dallas City; DINGLEY v. West Melbourne; Clarinda Kooyong Rangers v. SEAFORD UNITED; HAMPTON WANDERERS v. Diamond Valley; LYNDALE UNITED v. Burwood United; NORTH SUNSHINE v. Brunswick City; MITCHAM v. Port United.

DIVISION FOUR

Saturday: Batman United v. ASCOT VALE CITY; WEST-ALL v. Parkmore; CARRUM v. Monbulk; East Carlton v. RICHMOND UNITED; ST KILDA v. South Parkmore.

YOUTH LEAGUE

Sunday: PRESTON v. Heidelberg United; SOUTH MELBOURNE v. Footscray; MELBOURNE CROATIA v. Frankston Pines; SUNSHINE GEORGE CROSS v. Polonia; Knox City v. BRUNSWICK JUVENILE; MORWELL FALCONS v. Green Gully Ajax.

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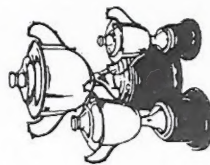
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Bill Lazopoulos of Western Suburbs (white shirt) is beaten in the air by Cesare Fattore of Frankston during a Buffalo Cup match. At left is Serge Sabbadini.



Fawkner's Bruno Cozzella goes down with a knee to the thigh. At left is Dean Hennessy of Box Hill and in the background Joe Palinkas.



Doveton striker Stan Webster scoots past Duncan Smith of Knox City.



Croydon goalkeeper Lou Kastner.

SATURDAY MARCH 17th ROUND 1
Albion Rovers v Croydon City.
Frankston Pines v Ringwood City.
Knox City v Northcote.
Broadmeadows v Morwell Falcons.
SUNDAY MARCH 18th
Box Hill v Western Suburbs.
Doveton v Fawkner.
Polonia v St Albans.
SATURDAY MARCH 24th ROUND 2
Morwell Falcons v Frankston Pines.
St Albans v Knox City.
SUNDAY MARCH 25th
Fawkner v Doveton.
Western Suburbs v Doveton.
Ringwood City v Box Hill.
Northcote City v Albion Rovers.
Croydon City v Broadmeadows.
SATURDAY MARCH 31st ROUND 3
Frankston Pines v Croydon City.
Knox City v Fawkner.
St Albans v Northcote City.
SUNDAY APRIL 1st
Box Hill v Morwell Falcons.
Doveton v Western Suburbs.
Polonia v Western Suburbs.
Broadmeadows v Albion Rovers.
SATURDAY APRIL 7th ROUND 4

SATURDAY MAY 12th ROUND 8
Morwell Falcons v Fawkner.
Albion Rovers v Knox City.
Broadmeadows v Polonia.
Frankston Pines v Doveton.
SUNDAY MAY 13th
Ringwood City v Western Suburbs.
Northcote City v Box Hill.
Croydon City v St Albans.
SATURDAY MAY 19th ROUND 9
Knox City v Broadmeadows.
St Albans v Albion Rovers.
SUNDAY MAY 20th
Doveton v Box Hill.
Polonia v Frankston Pines.
Fawkner v Croydon City.
Western Suburbs v Morwell Falcons.
Ringwood City v Northcote City.
SATURDAY MAY 26th ROUND 10
Morwell Falcons v Ringwood City.
Albion Rovers v Fawkner.
Broadmeadows v St Albans.
Frankston Pines v Knox City.
SUNDAY MAY 27th
Northcote City v Doveton.
Croydon City v Western Suburbs.
Box Hill v Polonia.

SUNDAY JULY 1st
Croydon City v Albion Rovers.
Ringwood City v Frankston Pines.
Western Suburbs v Box Hill.
Fawkner v Doveton.
SATURDAY JULY 7th ROUND 15
Knox City v Knox City.
Knox City v St Albans.
Frankston Pines v Morwell Falcons.
Albion Rovers v Northcote City.
Broadmeadows v Croydon City.
SUNDAY JULY 8th
Polonia v Fawkner.
Doveton v Western Suburbs.
Box Hill v Ringwood City.
SATURDAY JULY 14th ROUND 16
Albion Rovers v Broadmeadows.
Morwell Falcons v Box Hill.
SUNDAY JULY 15th
Croydon City v Frankston Pines.
Ringwood City v Doveton.
Western Suburbs v Polonia.
Fawkner v Knox City.
SATURDAY JULY 21st ROUND 17
Knox City v Western Suburbs.
Broadmeadows v Northcote City.
Frankston Pines v Albion Rovers.

SATURDAY AUGUST 18th ROUND 21
Knox City v Albion Rovers.
St Albans v Croydon City.
SUNDAY AUGUST 19th
Western Suburbs v Ringwood City.
Fawkner v Morwell Falcons.
Box Hill v Northcote City.
Polonia v Broadmeadows.
Doveton v Frankston Pines.
SATURDAY AUGUST 25th ROUND 22
Frankston Pines v Polonia.
Broadmeadows v Knox City.
Albion Rovers v St Albans.
Morwell Falcons v Western Suburbs.
SUNDAY AUGUST 26th
Box Hill v Doveton.
Croydon City v Fawkner.
Northcote City v Ringwood City.
SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 1st ROUND 23
Knox City v Frankston Pines.
St Albans v Broadmeadows.
SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 2nd
Ringwood City v Morwell Falcons.
Doveton v Northcote City.
Western Suburbs v Croydon City.
Fawkner v Albion Rovers.
Polonia v Box Hill.



Jeff Gerrish
(Knox)



Ricky Lipiaraki
(Polonia)



Stan Webster
(Doveton)



Striker Ian Loughane of Croydon City.



Peter Verechia of Box Hill goes around goal-keeper Joe Kias of Melbourne.

SUNDAY APRIL 20th
Fawkner v St Albans.
Western Suburbs v Knox City.
Ringwood City v Polonia.
Northcote City v Broadmeadows.
Croydon City v Box Hill.
SATURDAY APRIL 21st ROUND 6
Frankston Pines v Broadmeadows.
Knox City v Ringwood City.
St Albans v Western Suburbs.

SUNDAY APRIL 15th
Box Hill v Albion Rovers.
Doveton v Croydon City.
Polonia v Morwell Falcons.
Fawkner v Northcote City.
SATURDAY APRIL 21st ROUND 6
Morwell Falcons v Knox City.
Albion Rovers v Doveton.
Broadmeadows v Box Hill.
SUNDAY APRIL 22nd
Western Suburbs v Fawkner.
Ringwood City v St Albans.
Northcote City v Frankston Pines.
Croydon City v Polonia.

SATURDAY MAY 5th ROUND 7
Knox City v Croydon City.
St Albans v Morwell Falcons.
SUNDAY MAY 6th
Box Hill v Frankston Pines.
Doveton v Broadmeadows.
Polonia v Albion Rovers.
Fawkner v Ringwood City.
Western Suburbs v Northcote City.

Morwell Falcons v Northcote City.
St Albans v Frankston Pines.
SUNDAY JUNE 3rd
Polonia v Doveton.
Fawkner v Broadmeadows.
Western Suburbs v Albion Rovers.
Ringwood City v Croydon City.
SATURDAY/SUNDAY
JUNE 9th/10th
Queens Birthday Weekend

SATURDAY JUNE 16th ROUND 12
Albion Rovers v Ringwood City.
Broadmeadows v Western Suburbs.
Frankston Pines v Fawkner.
SUNDAY JUNE 17th
Northcote City v Polonia.
Croydon City v Morwell Falcons.
Box Hill v St Albans.
SATURDAY JUNE 23rd ROUND 13
Knox City v Polonia.
Morwell Falcons v Albion Rovers.
St Albans v Doveton.

SUNDAY JUNE 24th
Fawkner v Box Hill.
Western Suburbs v Frankston Pines.
Ringwood City v Broadmeadows.
Northcote City v Croydon City.
SATURDAY JUNE 30th ROUND 14
Morwell Falcons v Broadmeadows.
St Albans v Polonia.

SUNDAY JULY 22nd
Polonia v Ringwood City.
Doveton v Morwell Falcons.
Box Hill v Croydon City.
SATURDAY JULY 28th ROUND 18
Broadmeadows v Frankston Pines.
Albion Rovers v Box Hill.
Morwell Falcons v Polonia.

SUNDAY JULY 29th
Croydon City v Doveton.
Ringwood City v Knox City.
Western Suburbs v St Albans.
Northcote City v Fawkner.

SATURDAY AUGUST 4th ROUND 19
Knox City v Morwell Falcons.
Frankston Pines v Northcote City.
St Albans v Ringwood City.

SUNDAY AUGUST 5th
Fawkner v Western Suburbs.
Polonia v Croydon City.
Doveton v Albion Rovers.
Box Hill v Broadmeadows.

SATURDAY AUGUST 11th ROUND 20
Frankston Pines v Box Hill.
Broadmeadows v Doveton.
Albion Rovers v Polonia.
Morwell Falcons v St Albans.
SUNDAY AUGUST 12th
Croydon City v Knox City.
Ringwood City v Fawkner.
Northcote City v Western Suburbs.

24
Frankston Pines v St Albans.
Broadmeadows v Fawkner.
Albion Rovers v Western Suburbs.
SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 9th
Doveton v Polonia.
Box Hill v Knox City.
Croydon City v Ringwood City.
Northcote City v Morwell Falcons.

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 15th ROUND 25
Morwell Falcons v Croydon City.
Knox City v Doveton.
St Albans v Box Hill.

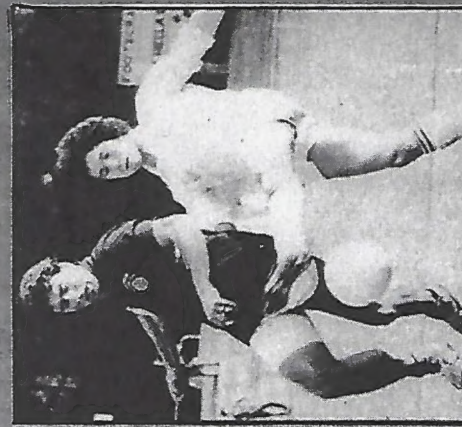
SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 16th
Polonia v Northcote City.
Ringwood City v Albion Rovers.
Western Suburbs v Broadmeadows.
Fawkner v Frankston Pines.

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 22nd
Frankston Pines v Western Suburbs.
Broadmeadows v Ringwood City.
Albion Rovers v Morwell Falcons.

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 23rd
Polonia v Knox City.
Doveton v St Albans.
Box Hill v Fawkner.
Croydon City v Northcote City.



Steve Beech of Frankston Pines, formerly of Preston-Makedonia.



Broadmeadows forward Dragan Vasic (left), then of Footscray JUST, is tackled by Alan Davidson of Halls.



Ron Varniers (Ringwood City-Whiteline).



Northcote City striker Peter Constantinou.



Steve Moore - star midfielder of Morwell Falcons.

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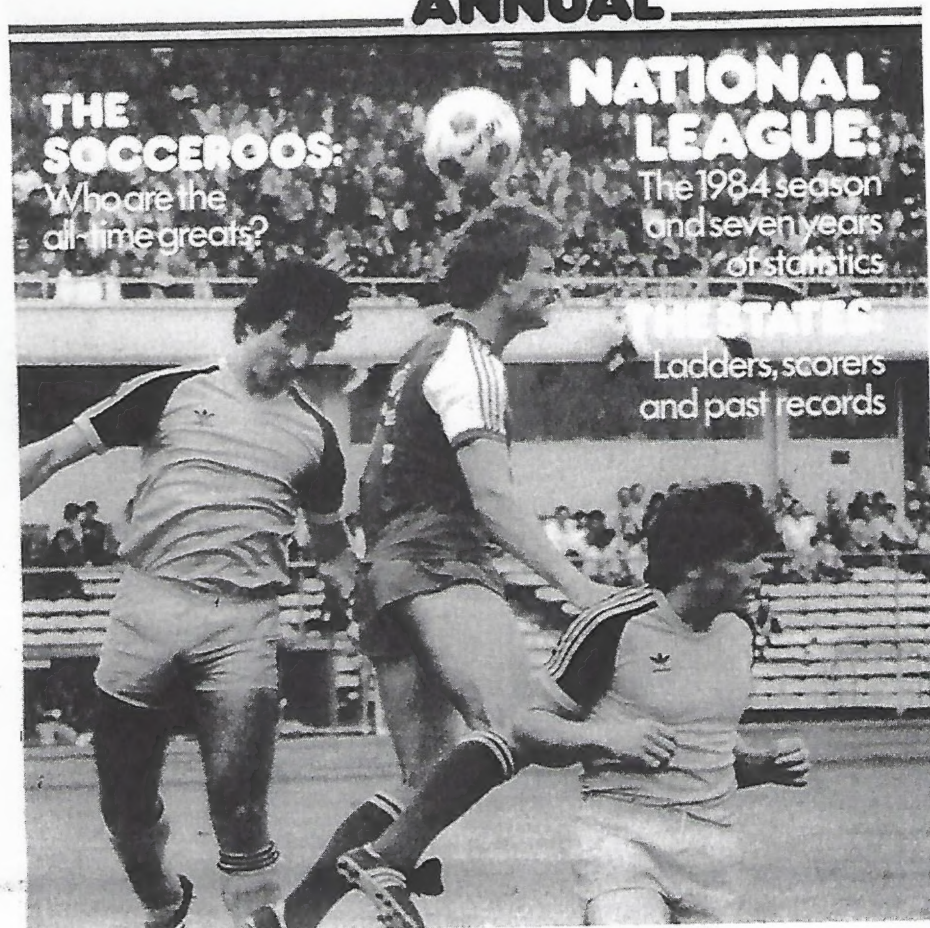
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- ★NATIONAL CUP TRIBUTE TO SYDNEY OLYMPIC
- ★NSL COACHES ROSTER, 1977-1984
- ★EVERY GOALSCORER IN NSL, NATIONAL CUP AND TOP FOUR SERIES, 1977-1983
- ★FULL VOTING LIST FOR NATIONAL BEST PLAYER AWARD
- ★MERLION CUP — ANALYSIS OF THE SOCCEROOS' TRIUMPH
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- ★SOUTH AUSTRALIAN LADDERS, ALL-TIME HONORS ROLL AND ROTHMANS MEDAL
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- ★TASMANIA — ALL SCORERS, LADDERS, ROTHMANS MEDAL VOTING
- ★NORTHERN NSW — LADDERS AND SCORERS
- ★QUEENSLAND HOW THEY FINISHED IN '83, PLUS QUEENSLAND'S DEFEAT OF NSW
- ★REVIEW OF 1983 IN THE GREEK AND YUGOSLAV LANGUAGES

The Wilson era ends

By PHILIP MICALLEF

Peter Wilson, one of the most colorful characters of Australian soccer, has decided to call it a day.

The former Socceroo defender was forced out of regular competitive soccer with an ailing back injury in late 1982.

Wilson, 33, is still an APLA player but since he happens to live and work in the Wollongong area he wanted to join the Wolves' playing staff.

He was willing to play for nothing — just to give a helping hand to his old buddy Adrian Alston, Wollongong's coach.

But a high transfer fee placed on him by APLA and Wollongong's reluctance to buy an "old timer" caused an abrupt end to a bright career.

After playing his early soccer on the NSW South Coast, Wilson moved to Sydney where he continued to distinguish himself as a classy defender.

But a serious back injury

cut his marvellous career short.

Wilson led APLA to a superb Phillips Cup victory over Heidelberg in Melbourne in 1982 as a "farewell gift" to his club. But when he indicated he was willing to help Alston out, APLA came up with a transfer fee of \$10,000 which is, at best, a bit ungrateful.

Wollongong, which made painstaking efforts in 1983 to reduce its financial deficit, understandably was unprepared to spend so much money on a veteran with a suspect physical condition.

"Spending such money on Wilson would have been a huge risk," Wolves secretary John Vlietstra said.

"And I can't blame the Wolves for not buying me," Wilson pointed out.

"All I wanted was to give my old mate a helping hand when most of his first team



Peter Wilson lines up with the Soccerroos before their clash with South Korea in Sydney in 1973. From left: Fraser, Curran, Buljevic, Richards, Utjesenovic, Makay, Warren, Watkiss, Alston, Abonyi, Wilson, Rasic (coach).

players were not training due to their pay wrangle with the club.

"But now things seem to have sorted themselves out."

Wilson is not bitter with APLA for placing \$10,000 on him but he admitted he had lost most of his motivation and appetite for Soccer.

He has promised to pop along to the Wollongong Showground whenever possible to have a look at the young Wolves in action.

Thus ends the career of a

great player who gave everything to Australian soccer and holds the record tally of 114 Soccerroo appearances. His first game was against Kowloon Bus Company in 1970, his last against Partizan in 1979.

He once turned down a big opportunity to set up a business in order to concentrate on the game he loved so much.

But now soccer has turned its face away from him.

It is not the first time a player has been forced into retirement due to inconsistent demands by clubs.

Why can't a club give such an experienced player a "free handshake" as a token of appreciation for services rendered?

When such cases occur, one doubts the sensibility of the game.

There is, however, absolutely no doubt in one thing — something, somewhere, is wrong in the system.

Graham Jennings — the nice guy who comes first!

By ANDREW DETTRE

Graham Jennings is living proof of the fallacy of an old sporting theory that "nice guys come last". Graham is a nice guy, quiet, shunning controversies and action flare-ups — yet he seems, at 24, to have made the left fullback position in the Soccerroo team his own, a worthy successor to Ackerley, Williams, Tansey and Niven.

It is somewhat amazing how this almost introvert young man fits into a Sydney Olympic side full of extroverts, even his style is a radical departure from the norm.

He lacks the all-mauling, boots-and-all approach of Marshall Soper, the relaxed, almost arrogant elegance of Peter Raskopoulos, the often criticised conceit of Peter Katholos or the exciting, pulsating presence of Jimmy Patikas.

Jennings is none of these and probably never was.

I remember seeing him for the first time, in 1979, in Rudi Gutendorf's Dural training camp as the Young Roos were preparing for their trip to Paraguay. Here was a slim, almost wiry, youngster doing some dazzling things on the left wing — another product of the seemingly inexhaustible supply of Newcastle-born talent.

A lot of things have happened to him since. First of all, he came to Sydney, joined Sydney Olympic and, progressively, moved back from attack to midfield and finally, last season, to defence — a credit to his versatility.

Then, also last year, he was selected by caretaker coach Frank Arkor for the England series — only months after having switched to left fullback, by his club coach Docherty.

Later he was retained by Les Scheinflug for the Merlion journey in Singapore. And, in between, he married the young lady whom he had met, accidentally, on a basketball court in Dubbo.

"For the past few years — 1983 was an exception — I used to play basketball in the off season, for the Newcastle Police Boys Club," he says.

"Two years ago we played at Dubbo and there I met very briefly a girl also playing basketball. I found out that she, too, hailed from Newcastle — but forgot to get her address."

"So when we returned to Newcastle, I began a search for her until I tracked her down."

Louise Stuart, a pretty, bright blonde originally from Blayney and Graham married in November — three days before he had to fly out to Singapore. Now the two ex-Novocastrians have set up house at Haberfield and she is trying to get used to living in Sydney.

"Graham has promised to show me around Sydney but he's always busy," Louise laments. "I haven't even seen the Opera House, Plam Beach or many other sights."

Louise works in a bank and Graham in a legal searching office, similar to a clerk for solicitors, no wonder he showed such deffness while searching for that pretty basketball player after the Dubbo trip.

Graham is determined rather than single-

minded about his soccer career. He is pleased to be in the Soccerroo team but not to the point of obsession.

"You never know how long you can keep your place; that's the nature of sport," he says. "There's always youngsters coming up, hungry and ambitious, eager to squeeze you out. A lot depends, I guess, on my club form."

And that has been the epitome of steadiness. Jennings has few ups and downs; he seldom fails to deliver his maximum. Just what coaches always dream about.

"I find it easier to play at fullback than up front because you have more room to move," he says. "I can still overlap and join the attack when the chances come, so occasionally I do get near the goal."

"Anyway, this is where I was moved and where I appear to be stuck. And if I can play for the Soccerroos at fullback, why hanker for a return to the midfield or the attack?"

When he assesses the "new-look" Olympic team, he sounds sincere without the sycophantic tendency of players to flatter the new boss at the expense of the old one.

"Manfred Schaefer is changing Olympic into a steadier team," he says. "He's making us build all our moves from the back, patiently and carefully."

"We could always attack, often in a whirlwind fashion — but we used to give away crazy goals. Now we have retained what people call our 'flair' in midfield and attack — but have become much more solid at the back."

"Whenever I overlap, for instance, I always know that there is somebody behind me covering up. We don't open the gates as we used to, the mad cavalry charges are over."

"But we still want to exploit the speed, skill and dash of our key players; after all, Olympic is a very young team which should show exuberance and élan."

Jennings says Manfred Schaefer trains his team harder than Docherty did — and more methodically. And that, considering Docherty's global reputation, is certainly a tribute to the former "iron-man" of Australian soccer.

"Schaefer is also more demanding than the Doc was," he adds. "And he's got every right to be: after all, we're playing for money and our positions. He knows that if we can't succeed, neither can he — so he makes sure."

Having tasted the delights of international soccer, Jennings keeps his fingers crossed that neither injury nor a lapse of form would disrupt his international career. Above all else, he is hopeful of travelling with the team on tour at the end of the year.

"Eight years ago I went to Europe with a northern NSW junior team; we played 22 matches in six crowded weeks. It would be lovely to return now with the Soccerroos."



Graham Jennings in action with Olympic.

Murray sets the record straight

Box Hill coach Bill Murray discounted claims that there was a major argument in his side's dressing rooms before the recent Buffalo Cup Final won 3-1 by Polonia.

"One of my players came up to me before the match and said he disagreed with my decision to leave him out of the starting line-up. He was very disappointed and frankly, if he hadn't been, I would have been disappointed with him," said Murray.

"But we talked it out and resolved the situation."

In no way did this so called argument influence our performance in the final.

"With regards to my substitution and positional switches during the game, it was inaccurately reported in your paper that Dean Hennessy was on the bench and should have been used. Dean wasn't even on the team sheet. I couldn't possibly have used him, indeed, Dean wasn't considered for selection."



Bill Murray



Dean Hennessy

Bannon to Melbourne

Pat Bannon signed with Victorian club Melbourne last night (Tuesday).

Bannon, 35, a former captain and player-coach of Heidelberg United, joined the Metro First Division club on a free transfer from Juventus, despite offers from State League clubs.

"It's a real scoop for us. I'm absolutely delighted," said Melbourne coach Mike Lynn.

"Paddy will give us the experience and quality we need, with so many youngsters in the side. I'm confident that we'll mount a strong championship challenge this year."



Paddy Bannon

Scottish-born Bannon joined Heidelberg in the 1970's. He played with Melbourne Croatia in 1981 then switched to Juventus.

He won the Victorian Rothmans Medal in 1974.

— CRAIG MACKENZIE

U.K. trio available

Three players with English Football League experience want to come to Australia.

Simon Steele, a goalkeeper, is 6'2", 13½ stone. He's been freed by Brighton and Hove Albion and is interested in signing a two or three year contract with an Australian club.

David McCarthy and Simon Dwyer both are just 18. McCarthy has played with Manchester City and Doncaster Rovers and has been offered trial with Spurs and Luton. He's turned them down, opting instead to gain experience overseas. He's a sweeper.

A similar decision has been made by his friend, Dwyer, who has been freed by Sheffield Wednesday, as a result of a management change. Manchester United and Nottingham Forest have offered Dwyer trials but the teenager wants to play abroad.

Any clubs interested in these players can gain further information by phoning Joe Docherty during business hours on 698 5228.

Liverpool fan club

The arm of the mighty reds of Anfield, Liverpool, has stretched to Australia. Well, to be more precise, to Geelong in Victoria.

An official Supporters' Club has been formed in Geelong by Ron Spencer, who already has 25 members, and will hold its first official meeting on Wednesday, March 28 in the RAOB Hall, 250 Ryrie Street, Geelong.

Mr Spencer, 55, a retired

father of four, reckons that there are thousands of expatriot Liverpool supporters all over Australia and is confident that the supporters' club will thrive.

"We'll organise social functions and talk soccer, like any other Liverpool fans," he said.

"I know of at least a dozen Liverpool fans and I'm sure that there are many more who would love to be part of an official supporters' club."

Anyone interested in further information can contact Mr Spencer at 291 Wilson's Road, Whittington, Geelong, 3219.

CONSULT THE PROS

The Victorian Professional Sports Consultants, managed by Mr James Demetriou, are making a concerted bid to break into the soccer market and are offering a wide range of services to players.

Mr Demetriou's organisation consists of past and

present sportsmen established in legal, accounting and management fields.

The organisation aims to:

(1) Organise, manage and administer the business and financial affairs of the player;

(2) Maximize the earning potential of the player during the term of his sporting life;

(3) Provide ongoing estate and business planning advice for the player until he retires from his working life.

The player can receive legal advice in a variety of areas,

such as: rules and regulations governing soccer; contracts and obligations; taxation advice; conveyancing; wills; business and estate planning; and litigation.

Advice also is available on money and property investment, insurance needs, and promotional direction.

Players interested in further information concerning the Victorian Professional Sports Consultants should contact Mr. Demetriou on (03) 354 3654.

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KNIVES PLUNGE

Now Scheinflug has been sacked even though he enjoyed a good measure of success and was re-establishing an atmosphere of stability in the national team's affairs.

Sir Arthur made it clear in recent weeks that he wanted Scheinflug out and Frank Arok in. Peter Shean, the ASF's marketing director and representative of the ASF's sponsor, West Nally, also supported Arok.

At the ASF's meeting last Thursday, only Sam Papavasas (NSL), Michael Weinstein (Vic.) and Tony Labozzetta (NSW) spoke against Scheinflug's sacking.

The meeting first declared the position vacant. Weinstein then moved the position be advertised and that it be on a full-time basis.

That move was unsuccessful.

It was a heated meeting. During it, Sir Arthur said to Papavasas that Papavasas probably thought that he (Sir Arthur) knew nothing about soccer. Papavasas said something to the effect that since Sir Arthur had mentioned it, he (Papavasas) would not disagree.

Papavasas had asked the meeting how it could appoint Scheinflug in November and sack him in March.

Papavasas objected to a proposal to have two national teams — "A" and "B" — playing against overseas opposition in May-June, because with up to 40 players on national team duty, many NSL teams will be depleted

to such an extent that they may not wish to play.

This means the National Cup competition, which was to have taken place during this period, may have to be called off.

Meanwhile, Aris of Greece, which was to have been one of four touring teams in May-June, won't visit after all. Only Glasgow Rangers so far have confirmed they are coming.

Iraklis has been mentioned as a possible replacement for Aris.

The other teams with which negotiations have taken place are Nottingham Forest, Manchester United and Fiorentina of Italy.

Results of Australia's senior team under Scheinflug 1981

- v. Indonesia (World Cup) 2-0 in Melbourne
- v. Taiwan (World Cup) 3-2 in Adelaide
- v. Fiji (World Cup) 4-1 in Suva
- v. Fiji (World Cup) 10-0 in Melbourne
- v. Indonesia (World Cup) 0-1 in Surabaya
- v. Caroline Hill 6-0 in Hong Kong
- v. Taiwan (World Cup) 0-0 in Taipei.

1982

- Merlion Cup in Singapore: v. Thailand 4-9
- v. Indonesia 2-0
- v. Malaysia 5-0
- v. South Korea (final) 3-2

1983

- v. New Zealand 1-2 in Auckland

v. New Zealand 0-2 in Melbourne

v. Western Australia 1-2 in Perth

v. Kuala Lumpur Selection 4-1 in Kuala Lumpur

Merlion Cup in Singapore

- v. China 1-2
- v. Singapore B 1-0
- Thailand 2-0
- v. South Korea 3-1
- v. Singapore (final) 4-2

Notes on the defeats

Against Indonesia in Surabaya, Australia fielded its youth team in place of its senior team, as it had no

chance of qualifying for the World Cup.

The two games against New Zealand were played against Scheinflug's wishes. He argued it was too early in the year for the Socceroos, while the Kiwis still were on a high from their World Cup participation.

The match against Western Australia was the first on tour, after the Victorian players had joined the squad in Adelaide and it was used as a "warm up" session for the Merlion Cup.

China — well, it was just a good team.

He added: "The sports public of this country can decide whether or not it's been the right decision. In my own view, it's a very sad time for Australian soccer. We're back to the bad old days of post-1974. We're self-destructing again."

Scheinflug thanked Victorian ASF men Michael Weinstein and Sam Papavasas, and NSW's Tony Labozzetta for having spoken up for him at the meeting during which he was sacked.

"I have great respect for those three gentlemen for saying that you can't sack a coach who has done nothing wrong. They proved that they are not yes men," Scheinflug said.

Scheinflug denied he had opposition among some players.

admitted that he wanted Eddie Thomson to be the caretaker coach of the national team. He was shocked when, in the very last minute, the ASF opted for Frank Arok instead.

Knowing Arok's reputation — and his unmatched string of successes over the years — Scheinflug might have regretted his decision to travel to Mexico. But it was too late.

Arok seized his chance and, as usual, produced the results. Two stunning draws out of three games against England, in full internationals, inevitably catapulted him into the national limelight.

Although the youth team did

Mexico trip was costly

well in Mexico, under Scheinflug, nothing except perhaps a place in the final would have matched Arok's feats against England back home.

Not even a tournament win in the Merlion Cup in Singapore — against modest opposition — was enough to turn the tide.

Influential ASF men became convinced — mainly on past results — that Arok was the best man for the job. His record with the Saints during his three sojourns — 1969-70, then 1972 and finally since his return in 1981 plus his successes against England — speak for themselves (SEE BOX).

Meanwhile Scheinflug tried his luck with Brisbane Lions, then Marconi, Adelaide City and again Marconi, with only a modicum of success during his first Marconi stint.

For reasons never clearly explained, Marconi dismissed him after he had won the 1979 PSL title and the 1980 PSL Cup, with several key officials openly campaigning for his sacking.

Now some of the same officials have re-engaged him at Marconi — and became his greatest supporters in the recent duel with Arok.

As we said, soccer politics

isn't always a clean affair — so it's appropriate, perhaps, that the last chapter in the Scheinflug dismissal had nothing to do with soccer.

We understand that the final decision was preceded by an intensive interstate telephoning campaign among some high ASF officials.

One, a staunch Scheinflug supporter, allegedly offered to switch sides and vote for Arok — if he could become chairman of the World Cup committee.

In the end, no such guarantees were given yet Arok won the battle and Scheinflug can now wonder at leisure whether the 1981 trip to Mexico was worth the enormous risk.

LES SCHEINFLUG

1977: Brisbane Lions — 9th

1978: Adelaide City — 10th and finalists in PSL Cup

1979: Marconi — 1st

1980: Marconi — 4th, and winners of PSL Cup

FRANK AROK

1981: St George — NSW grand final winners — promoted

1982: St George — 2nd in NSL, grand final winners

1983: St George — NSL 1st

Arok with St George in NSW State League:

1989: 2nd, grand finalists

1970: 2nd, grand finalists

1972: 1st, grand final winners and Ampol Cup winners

Judge the bosses: Scheinflug

He added: "The sports public of this country can decide whether or not it's been the right decision. In my own view, it's a very sad time for Australian soccer. We're back to the bad old days of post-1974. We're self-destructing again."

The alleged opposition was illustrated by a newspaper story in Sydney claiming that goalkeeper Terry Greedy would continue playing for Australia if Arok was the coach, but not under Scheinflug.

"The day after that story appeared, Greedy rang me up and apologised, saying not a word of it was true. He said he had also rung up the reporter and blasted him, but the reporter had refused to tell him where the story had come from," Scheinflug said.

He added: "After the meeting, it was said that Frank Arok had more European experience than I, yet I've been coaching against European teams and others since 1970, when I was assistant to Rasic. If we play against Brazilians,

will we then hire a Brazilian coach?"

Scheinflug claimed certain people on the ASF wanted to get rid of him even before the Socceroos went to Singapore in December, and that they hoped the Socceroos would fare badly there, so as to make his dismissal easier.

He opposed the idea of having a national A and a national B team, preferring an under 21 team as a back-up to the senior Socceroos.

"Also, I wanted national teams to be brought over to play against Australia. They said that couldn't be done, but that is a lie. They never tried hard enough. I believe people want to see full internationals, and that they will get sick of meaningless matches against club sides."

Cash crisis hits A.C.T.

By PETER WINDSOR

The ACT Soccer Federation, hit hard by reduced Federal Government grants and other income shocks, could soon put out an SOS for a super salesman to sell sponsorship deals to local firms.

The salesman would work on a normal commission basis.

Consideration of seeking a salesman — or commission agent — has been seriously canvassed after the Federation's usual \$6,000 grant from the Federal Government via Canberra's Department of Territories and Local Government was slashed to \$3,000.

Gojkovic gets Knight

Auburn-Uruguay has no intentions of finishing poorly in this year's NSW State League. To that end the club has hired Ljubo Gojkovic, the successful coach of Sydney City's youth team last year.

A procession of players from various clubs has followed him. Neal Parfitt from Sydney City went to Auburn. Kelly and Townson from Sydney Olympic youth side were already at Auburn, but the latest signing as a bit of a surprise: Stephen Knight, Kurungai midfielder and an ex-Sydney Olympic youth player decided against playing in the NSL with Brisbane Lions to go to Auburn with his ex-coach Gojkovic.

— ALEX VESIC

Such has been the impact of these setbacks that unless sponsorship — or other funding — is found Canberra's promising Under-15 squad will not compete in this year's national titles in Perth.

The bill to achieve that was reputedly close to \$12,000.

LIVERPOOL, ROMA SET FOR SEIS

Italian soccer champion Roma and three times winner Liverpool moved inexorably towards a European Cup showdown when they gained what should be decisive leads in their quarter-final first-leg ties.

A three goal burst in 23 minutes gave Roma the bidding to become the first Italian Club since AC Milan in 1969 to lift the champions' trophy, a 3-0 win over East Germany's Dynamo Berlin. At almost inevitably, Ian Rush scored a precious winner for Liverpool against Benfica at Anfield.

The size of Roma's advantage and Liverpool's vast experience should see both clubs survive their away trips in two weeks time, and provided they avoid one another in the semifinals, the scene is set for a memorable final in the Olympic Stadium, Rome, on May 30.

The two other quarter-final ties were left nicely poised with Romania's Dinamo Bucharest, second round conquerors of holders Hamburg, and Dundee United of Scotland narrow favourites to advance to the semifinals.

The Romanians travelled to Teisli in Soviet Georgia where they shocked Dynamo Minsk by snatching a 1-1 draw when Rednik scored an unexpected equaliser two minutes from time.

Dundee United, who had not conceded a goal in the previous two rounds, surrendered that proud record in Austria but will feel reasonably confident of overturning Rapid Vienna's 2-1 lead in the return leg.

Barcelona and Juventus, who would provide a "dream" cupwinners' cup final in Basle on May 16, will also be more than satisfied with their night's work, although both where some way below their best.

The Italians beat Finland's Valke Haka 1-0 "away" from home in Strasbourg, France, a

tie which had to be moved south because of the harsh Nordic winter, and will regard the return in Turin as little more than target practice.

Barcelona face an altogether different proposition in England against Manchester United, but a 2-0 win in Spain — albeit courtesy of own goal and a last minute strike by Rojo — should be enough to put them into the semifinals.

Cupwinners holders Aberdeen of Scotland, however, are in a perilous position. They lost 2-0 to Ujpest Dossa in Hungary and their grip on the trophy appears to be in jeopardy.

Moscow. Rodionov, Gladilin. Attendance: 30,000.

In Liverpool: LIVERPOOL (England) 1 BENFICA (Portugal) 0 Scorer: Ian Rush (66th min) Attendance: 39,096

CUP WINNERS' CUP

In Budapest: UJPEST DOZSA (Hungary) 2 ABERDEEN (Scotland) 0 Scorer: Sandor Kiszver (68th min), Attila Heredi (82nd). Attendance: 25,000.

In Oporto: PORTO (Portugal) 3 DOMESTSH (Soviet Union) 2 Scorer: Porto: Jaime Pecheo (40th min, penalty), Frasco (47th), Jacques (70th), Donetsk — Morozov (6th), Sokolovskiy (37th). Attendance: 65,000. In Strasbourg: VALKEA HAKA (Finland) 0 JUVENTUS (Italy) 1 Scorer — Vignola (88th).

In Barcelona: BARCELONA (Spain) 2 MANCHESTER UNITED (England) 0 Scorer: Graeme Hogg (33rd min, own goal), Rojo (80th). Attendance: 90,000.

UEFA CUP

In Nottingham: NOTTINGHAM FOREST (England) 1 STURM GRAZ (Austria) 0 Scorer: Paul Hart (70th min). Attendance: 19,459.

In London: TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR (England) 2 AUSTRIA VIENNA (Austria) 0 Scorer: Steve Archibald (58th min), Alan Brazil (66th). Attendance: 34,069.

SPORTA PRAGUE (Czech) 1 HAJDUK SPLIT (Yugoslavia) 0

ANDERLECHT (Belgium) 4 SPARTAK MOSCOW (USSR) 2

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Former Canberra City player Ian Heywood has more reason than most to remember the Roy Stark testimonial match in Canberra recently.

Tragically for Heywood, with but two minutes remaining, he crashed to the ground after a heavy tackle — with what was later diagnosed as a broken ankle.

Surprisingly, despite the pain, the ankle set in plaster and on crutches — Heywood attended the after-match celebrations for Canberra's former captain later the same night.

But now a warning to Canberra Arrows —

and those who control the leasing of the National Sports Centre in Canberra.

When will a stretcher be left at the multi-million dollar stadium? Because one couldn't be found for some time it took 10 minutes to get Heywood carried from the ground.

Shades of a similar incident with Don MacLaren last season. He ended up being carried off on a wooden board.

Considering some \$7 million is being spent on the stadium in readiness for the 1988 World Athletics Cup — perhaps a hundred dollars or so could be set aside for a stretcher.

— PETER WINDSOR



TASMANIAN SCENE
with Walter Pless

Media coverage woeful

Olympia, who thought they might have goalkeeping worries with the departure of Robert Harrison to Melbourne, where he is hoping to attract interest from one of the NSL clubs, should be all right in this key department now.

Not only have they signed former 'keeper, Mark Johnston, but Martin Burden, who won a State League championship with Brighton-ITL in 1981, recently made an appearance at training.

Burden played for Launceston-Juventus in 1982 and Metro-Clearmont last season. He made only a few appearances for Metro, however, as injury kept him out of the game for most of the year.

The tussle for the number one goalkeeping spot at Olympia should be an interesting one as both players are highly rated.

Peter Brine, the former Middlesbrough professional, who coached Juventus-Pioneer to last season's Cadbury State League title, is considering a comeback as a player now that Ken Morton has replaced him as coach at Juventus. It will probably be with another club, however.

Brine, whose professional career in England came to an end because of a serious knee injury, has shed a stone in weight over the summer and feels confident that his knee can be built up to stand the pressures of a game once more.

He played magnificently for Juventus upon his arrival in Tasmania, with Eric Young, in 1980, but he has made only rare appearances over the past two seasons, usually only when the team needed bolstering.

I have yet to see Peter Brine play a bad game and his reappearance as a player would be a boost to the game. He and his family intend returning to the United Kingdom shortly for a six-week stay and he will make a final decision upon their return to Tasmania.

A black mark to the local news media in southern Tasmania for their lack of coverage of soccer.

The local daily newspaper, "The Mercury", didn't even both to preview the opening round of the "Michael Taylor" Summer Cup competition, nor did it send a reporter to the games.

The local commercial television station, TVT 6, failed to nominate a single soccer player for its 'Sportsman of the Year' award, which was televised 'Live' from the West Point Casino's new convention centre.

This was despite the fact that several players had distinguished themselves during the past year. Liam Monagle (Rothmans Gold Medal winner), Luciano Fabrizio (member of the Young Socceroo squad that contested the Joao Havelange Tournament), Carlo Ambrosio (accepted in the AIS squad), John Charlson (member of three successive State League championship-winning teams), and Andrew Leszczynski (selected in the Australian Schools' Representative Under 18 team and accepted by Brisbane Lions before his failure to gain a place at the University of Queensland necessitated his return to Tasmania) are just five that come to mind that would have been worthy of nomination.

The sad fact is that the local news media would often sooner report on a game of marbles than on a local soccer match!



**'Gong to
come
good,**

"Soccer Action's" tipsters are pretty hopeless. They keep getting it wrong, so I've taken over this week.

Here then, is my to-the-point preview of the NSL 3rd round. Bet I get more right than Laurie Schwab.

NEWCASTLE v. APIA
International Sports Centre, Saturday, 2.30 pm

I'll go for APIA. I like their new striker, Kerry Caban, who's from Newcastle. He's good in the air, and he shields the ball very well. I also like Ian Gray. I marked him in a trial match a few weeks ago, and he's got a lot of talent. Luckily I managed to keep him fairly quiet, but against Marconi the following week, he was judged man of the match. Newcastle has lost too many players to win this one. The young players still are finding their feet, and until they do, results will be hard to come by.

BLACKTOWN v. MELITA EAGLES
Gabbie Stadium, Sunday, 4 pm

This will be a win to the Eagles. They've got a good squad, and they'll improve steadily with more time to settle. Billy Griffiths is a tiger in midfield, Dennis Duarte is strong up front and Ray Farrugia, as everyone knows, is a hell of a player. Their defence has been given extra teeth by the acquisition of Howard Tredin-

nick from Newcastle, and as a team, Melita puts the emphasis on possession and skilful soccer. Blacktown, by comparison is less refined, and puts more emphasis on strength.

CANBERRA v. JUVENTUS (Vic)
Bruce Stadium Sunday, 3 pm

Frank Farina, Tommy Sermann and Steve Bryant look to be the trump cards of the Canberra team, but its defence features only one experienced player — Paul Ontong — and so it may have trouble against the seasoned Juventus forwards, Gary Ward, Robbie Cullen and Joe Sweeney. Still, I reckon it will be a draw.

ST. GEO. BUDAPEST v. MARCONI
St. George Stadium, Sunday, 3 pm

Another draw! OK, so Marconi started the season poorly, but so what? You can't say they lack talent. I reckon if Bertie Mariani and Steve Calderan can hold Dez Marton and Robbie Slater, Marconi won't have anyone else to worry about. But by the same token, St. George also has a tough defence, so goals will be

**KAT'S
CORNER**
with PETER KATHOLOS

J.U.S.T. threat to Hellas

extremely scarce. The score? Either 0-0 or 1-1.

SYD. C. HAKOAH v. PENRITH
Sydney Athletic Field, Sunday, 3 pm

Providing all the Hakoah stars play (I hear there are still a few problems) then the home side should win easily. Penrith has got only one man capable of worrying Hakoah, and that's Roy Cotton, but he needs midfield support, and his midfield will be beaten by Murray Barnes & Co.

SYD. CROATIA v. SYD. OLYMPIC
King Tomislav, Sunday

Draw. Getting monotonous, isn't it? Should be an interesting game, this one. Croatia is a good; strong side, and Marjan Kovacic, Wally Savor and Bruno Vidac — he's a horse at the back, fair dinkum — are all playing well. Shane Clinch is back as well, so it'll be tough for our guys.

BRISBANE CITY v. WOLLONGONG
Spencer Park, Sunday 3 pm

You'll probably think I'm mad, but I'm tipping Wollongong to come good. Brisbane City has loads of experience in Frank Liddell, Kim Wishart, Peter Tokesi, Billy Wilinson, Frank Pimblett, etc., but the Wolves are a determined bunch and desperation is in their side.

MELB. CROATIA v. BRISBANE LIONS
Green Gully Reserve, Sunday, 3 pm

An easy Croatia victory, this one! Lions will be like pussy cats down in Melbourne — easy prey for Peter Lewis, signed by Croatia for \$14,000, and the other Croatia defenders. Up front, little Tommy Cumming will do the rest to kill off the Lions. He's some player.

SUN. GEORGE CROSS v. ADEL CITY
JUVENTUS
Chaplin Reserve, Sunday, 3 pm

Another draw. Guys like Jim O'Reilly and John Stevenson are good, strong players, and even though they lack a bit of pace, they should be able to hold the Adelaide City forwards. There are quite a few goals in guys like Joe Mullen, Steve Maxwell, Charlie Villani, Ossie Latif, Carl Glider and Mick McGorian, so let's hope for 2-2 or 3-3, rather than 0-0.

W. ADEL. HELLAS v. GREEN GULLY AJAX
Hindmarsh Stadium, Sunday, 2.30 pm

You can't underestimate any team with the shrewd old fox, Jimmy Rooney, at the helm, so I've got to go for Green Gully, even though it's their first game outside Melbourne. I've heard a lot of good things about Stuart Cannell, David Hogben, Jim Williams and Willie Vassallo, whereas I wasn't impressed by West Adelaide last year.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Sth Melb Hellas	2	0	0	4	0	4
Juventus (Vic)	1	0	3	2	3	3
Bris. Lions	1	0	2	1	3	3
Melb Croatia	1	0	4	4	2	3
Adel C. Juventus	1	0	3	3	2	3
Bris. City	1	0	3	3	2	2
St. Geo. Cross	0	2	0	1	2	2
Foots JUST	0	1	3	4	1	1
Makedonia	0	1	1	2	1	1
W. Adel Hellas	0	1	1	2	1	1
H'berg-Alex	0	1	1	3	1	1
Gr. Gully Ajax	0	1	0	2	1	1

AUSTRALIAN CONFERENCE

	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Newcastle KB	2	0	0	3	4	4
Syd. C. Hakoah	1	0	4	2	3	3
Syd. Croatia	1	0	4	2	3	3
Blacktown	1	0	3	2	3	3
St. Geo. Budapest	1	0	2	1	3	3
Canberra Arrows	1	0	1	5	2	2
Melita Eagles	1	0	1	3	2	2
APIA-Leichardt	1	0	1	2	2	2
Syd. Olympic	0	2	0	1	2	2
Penrith	0	1	1	3	1	1
Marconi	0	0	2	1	3	0
Wollongong	0	0	2	1	7	0

SYDNEY CITY LEADS

NATIONAL Youth League Rd 2: Newcastle 0 AIS 0, St George 5 Canberra 3, Sydney City 4 Wollongong 2, APIA Leichardt 2 Melita Eagles 1, Blacktown City 2 Marconi 1, Penrith 3 Syd. Croatia 0.

Pointscore: Sydney City 4, St George 5, Penrith 3, APIA-Leichardt 3, Melita Eagles 2, Canberra 3, Newcastle 2, Blacktown City 2, AIS 1, Marconi 1, Olympic 0, Wollongong 0, Syd. Croatia 0.

Savor, Franken, Sproul

Wally Savor (Sydney Croatia) and two goalkeepers — Tony Franken (Canberra) and Gary Sproul (West Adelaide Hellas) — share the lead in the voting for the Boral Bricks Best Player award.

The winner will get \$1500 in cash. Savor, Franken and Sproul have maximum points after two rounds. The top scorer of the season will get \$1000 from Boral Bricks. Top vote-getters so far: 12. Savor (Syd Cr), Franken (Can), Sproul (WA).

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- 10. McIntosh (Pen), Senkalski (Newc), Ratcliffe (St. G), Jackson (Brisb. L.)
- 9. O'Reilly (JUST), Skeen (St.G), Brown (SM).
- 8. McMillan (Mak), Gosling (Newc), Bradley (APIA), Kay (Syd C), Camm (Gr. Gully).
- 7. Hoare (Black), Kosmina (Syd C), Murphy (SM).

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

GREEN GULLY AJAX 0 SOUTH MELBOURNE HELLAS 2 (Brown 69th & 83rd) at Green Gully Reserve. Crowd about 3500. Ratings by Laurie Schwab: GREEN GULLY: Denis 8 — Hogben 8, Cannell 8, Kremers 8, P. Beranic 7 — Toal 7, Vassallo 7, Wade 7, Williams 7 — Smart 5, Smallman 5. Coach: Jimmy Rooney. HELLAS: Laumets 8 — Russell 8, Blair 7, Yzendoorn 7, Kalifatidis 7 (inj) sub Kalamopoulos 78th) — Davidson 8, Crino 7, Halford 7, Murphy 8 — Brown 9, Lewis 7. Coach: Len McKendry. Best six for Boral Bricks best player award: 6. Brown (SM), 5. Denis (GG), 4. Davidson (SM), 3. Murphy (SM), 2. Cannell (GG), 1. Russell (SM).

JUVENTUS 1 (Cullen 75th) WEST ADELAIDE HELLAS 1 (Konstantopoulos 23rd) at Olympic Park. Crowd 1500 (estimate). Ratings by Peter Desira. JUVENTUS: Keogh 8 — Hind 7, Rogers 8, Dowie 8, Geremia 7 — Swincoe 7 (Uoyd 48th), Miranda 9, Cullen 7 — Ward 6, Sweeney 6, Zinni 8. Coach: John Margaritis. WEST ADELAIDE HELLAS: Sproul 9 — Hiern 7, McGachey 8, Honeyman 8, McGregor 8 — Panagis 8, Brown 7, Atsalas 7 (Papazoglou 8th) Stramatopoulos 6 (Totakis 56th) — Konstantopoulos 7, Malavazos 6. Coach: Sam Salabehidis. Best six for Boral Bricks best player award: 6. Sproul (WA), 5. Miranda (J), 4. McGachey (WA), 3. Honeyman (WA), 2. Rogers (J), 1. Zinni (J).

FOOTSCRAY JUST 2 (McDowell 30th, Belic 45th) BRISBANE CITY 3 (Liddell 59th, Mountford 61st, Scriggins 64th) at Schintler Reserve. Crowd: about 1750. Ratings by Craig Mackenzie: FOOTSCRAY JUST: Tsigaras 6 — Hazabent 6, McDowell 7, Tansley 7, Tuill 5 — Taylor 5, Curovic 6, O'Donnell 6 — Carroll 7 (Bekiaris 79th), Belic 6, Lujic 6. Coach: Bob McLachlan. BRISBANE CITY: Wishart 7 — Fabrizio 7 (Mengotti 84th), Liddell 8, Hughes 6, Wilkinson 6 — Swan 8, Pimblett 7, Hamilton 7 — Scriggins 8, Mountford 7, Bromfield 7. Coach: Joe Gilroy. Best six for Boral Bricks best player award: 6. Liddell (BC), 5. Swan (BC), 4. Scriggins (BC), 3. Carroll (F), 2. Fabrizio (B), 1. Mountford (BC).

BRISBANE LIONS 1 (McDonagh 21st) SYDNEY OLYMPIC 1 (Soper 7th) at Richlands. Crowd: About 1000. Ratings by Ricky Rosso: LIONS: Evans 8 — Jackson 9, Charlton 7, Hunter 8, Niven 8 — Ogden 7, J. Stewart 8, R. Stewart 8, McDonagh 8, Redmond 8, (McClurg 7, 66th ml), Wright 7. Coach: Harry Noon. OLYMPIC: Wilson 8 — Rogers 6, Dakos 7, Coady 5 (Lambropoulos 62nd), Jennings 6 — Phillips 6, Raskopoulos 7, Pasikas 6 — Soper 7, Patalis 5, (Kalantzis 6 halftime), Koussas 6. Coach: Manfred Schaefer. Best six for Boral Bricks best player award: Jackson (BL), 6. Redmond (P), 5. Wilson (SO), 4. Niven (BL), 3. Evans (BL), 2. Raskopoulos (SO), 1. HEIDELBERG-ALEXANDER 1 (Patterson penalty, 87th), SUNSHINE-GEORGE CROSS 1 (MacLaren 43rd) at Olympic Village. Crowd about 3000. Ratings by Ken Kontra: HEIDELBERG: Oliver 7 — McKie 9, Macleod 8 (sentoff 56th), Yankos 7, Gabrielson 7 — Petersen 8, Angiele 7, Silvio 8 (Vaglas 71st), Selamidis 7, Winn 6, Patterson 7. Coach: Brian Garvey. GEORGE CROSS: Contini 8 — Bennett 7, Richardson 7, O'Reilly 8, Taylor 8 — Stevenson 8, Bain 7, MacLaren 8 — McGorian 7, Gilder 7, Latif 6. Coach: Tommy Traynor. Best six for Boral Bricks best player award: 6. McKie (H), 5. MacLaren (G.C.), 4. O'Reilly (G.C.), 3. Petersen (H), 2. Contini (G.C.), 1. Selamidis (H).

ADELAIDE CITY JUVENTUS 2 (Rankin 17th, de Vito 76th) MELBOURNE CROATIA 3 (Brogan 52nd, Biskic 54th, Cumming 55th) at Norwood Oval. Crowd: about 4200. Ratings by FRANK PANGALLO: ADELAIDE CITY JUVENTUS: McNally 6 — B. Nyskovich 6, Flounders 8, Mear 6, Shillabeer 7 — Rankin 6, Carter 5 (de Caceres 60th), Villani 5, de Vito 7 — Maxwell 6, Mullen 8. Coach: Edmund Kraft. MELBOURNE CROATIA: Blasby 7 — Curcio 7, Parton 8, Adams 7, Peter Lewis 8 — Biskic 8, J. Campbell 9, Faulkner 7, Golejvic 7 (Markovac 85th) — Brogan 7, Cumming 8. Coach: Terry Hennessy. Best six for Boral Bricks best player award: 6. J. Campbell (MC), 5. Biskic (MC), 4. Peter Lewis (MC), 3. Parton (MC), 2. Flounders (AC), 1. Cumming (MC).

AUSTRALIAN CONFERENCE

MARCONI 1 (Jankovics 6th) BLACKTOWN 2 (Sandy 2nd, G. Byrne 73rd) at Marconi Stadium. Crowd 1624. Ratings by George Streeter: MARCONI: James 8 — Carter 7, Mariani 7 (Caldoran 7, 45th), Djordjevic 6, Rizzotto 6 — Spanos 6 (Carbone 55th), Henderson 7, McCulloch 9 — Brown 8, Jankovics 7, Licata 6. Coach: Les Scheinfield. BLACKTOWN: Hoare 8 — Wheatley 6, Dunleavy 7, Pointer 7, Shaw 8 — Selvaige 7, Burke 6 (Thornthwaite 65th), Byrne 7 — Sandy 6, Larkin 8, O'Connor 6. Coach: Casey de Bruin. Best six for Boral Bricks best player award: 6. McCulloch (M), 5. Larkin (B), 4. Brown (M), 3. Shaw (B), 2. James (M), 1. Hoare (B).

PENRITH CITY 3 (Wotherspoon 29th, Jackson 41st, Cotton 89th) SYDNEY CROATIA 3 (Savor 25th, Arnold 28th, M. Kovacic 52nd) at Cook Park. Crowd: 3,514. Ratings by ALEX VESIC: PENRITH CITY: Gibson 6 — Brogan 5, McIntosh 8, Daley 7, Cross 7 — Fitzharris 6 (Hale 54th), 5), Wotherspoon 7, Lindsay 7 — Hunter 7, Cotton 7, Jackson 7. Coach: Willie Wallace. SYDNEY CROATIA: Watson 7 — Woods 7, Sterrey 7, Vidac 7, Tomasic 5 — Raza 7, Meades 5 (Basic 64th), 7), M. Kovacic 8 (Cinich 84th) — Savor 8, Arnold 7, Kirwan 5. Coach: Attila Abonyi. Best six for Boral Bricks best player award: 6. Savor (SC), 5. M. Kovacic (SC), 4. McIntosh (PC), 3. Hunter (PC), 2. Cotton (PC), 1. Vidac (SC).

NEWCASTLE UNITED 1 (Brandt 85th) PRESTON MAKEDONIA 0 at International Sports Centre. Crowd: about 2,500. Ratings by JOE LANZONI: NEWCASTLE UNITED: Gosling 9 — Kerby 8, Boogard 8, Burke 8, Cowburn 7 — McQuarrie 8, Mason 7, Senkalski 8, Maier 8 — Brandt 7, McClelland 7. Coach: Ken Kaiser. PRESTON MAKEDONIA: Potter 7 — Opanisic 7, McMillan 8, Dunn 8, Petrovski 6 — Heys 7, Otdakov 7, Iloski 6, Campbell 7 — Lucchesi 6 (Livingston 85th), Cole 7. Coach: Peter Ollerton. Best six for Boral Bricks best player award: 6. Gosling (NU), 5. Senkalski (NU), 4. McMillan (PM), 3. Dunn (PM), 2. McQuarrie (NU), 1. Burke (NU).

APIA-LEICHARDT 1 (Caban 9th) MELITA EAGLES 2 (Allan 41st, Farrugia 67th) at Henson Park. Crowd about 1500. Ratings by Andrew Dettre: APIA: Parkes 7 — Skellern 6, Bertogna 6, Pullen 6, Brown 7 — Butler 7, Bradley 7, Gray 7 — Caban 6, P. Tredinnick 7, Morsello 6 (Colagiuri 76min) — Coach: F. Bottolico. MELITA: McPherson 6 — McAusland 6, McGinn 7, Wilson 8, H. Treanick 8 — Allan 7, Davies 8, Farrugia 7 — Farnsworth 7, McKeen 6 (33min) Griffiths 7, Johnston 6 — Coach: R. Blanco. Top six for Boral Bricks best player award: 6. Davies (M), 5. Wilson (M), 4. P. Tredinnick (APIA), 3. Bradley (APIA), 2. Farrugia (M), 1. Allan (M).

ST. GEORGE BUDAPEST 2 (Petkovski 68th, Marton 48th) CANBERRA ARROWS 1 (Perinovic 79th) at St. George Stadium. Crowd 1930. Ratings by Peter Scott: ST. GEORGE BUDAPEST: Greedy 5 — Skeen 8, Ratcliffe 7, M O'Shea 6, R O'Shea 6 — Stone 6, J O'Shea 6, Barton 5 (Ricoy 82nd min) — Slater 7, Kockza 5 (Petkovski 60th min), Marton 6. Coach: Frank Arak. CANBERRA: Franken 8 — Ontong 7, Redmond 6, Murray 6, Jones 6 — Sermann 7, Hoag 6, Bryant 6, (Baiz 70th min) — Brockbank 6, Farina 6, Phillips 7, (Perinovic 73rd min), Coach: Doug Collins. Best six for Boral Bricks best player award: 6. Franken (C), 5. Skeen S&G, 4. Ratcliffe, 3. Ontong (C), 2. Slater (S&G), 1. Phillips (C).

WOLLONGONG 1 (Bundalo 10th), SYDNEY CITY HAKOAH 3 (Kosmina 28th, Kerr own goal 60th, Boden 64th) at Wollongong Showground. Crowd 1600. Ratings by Philip McAllister: WOLLONGONG: Titled 7 — Green 7, Vlietstra 7, Gaffney 6, Kerr 6 — Kotanandis 6, Bundalo 7 (Hristovski 72nd), Condon 6, Willis 6 — Beggs 6, Ristovski 5 (Farrell 57th), Coach: Adrian Alston. SYDNEY CITY HAKOAH: Clarke 7 — Cant 7, Robertson 8, Gomez 7, Lynch 7 — Watson 8, Barnes 6 (Lee 66th), Murray 8 — Kosmina 8, Boden 8 (Fletcher 71st), Coach: Eddie Thomson. Best six for Boral Bricks award: 6. Kosmina (SC), 5. Murray (SC), 4. Boden (SC), 3. Kay (SC), 2. Green (W), 1. Bundalo (W).



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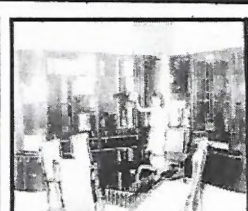


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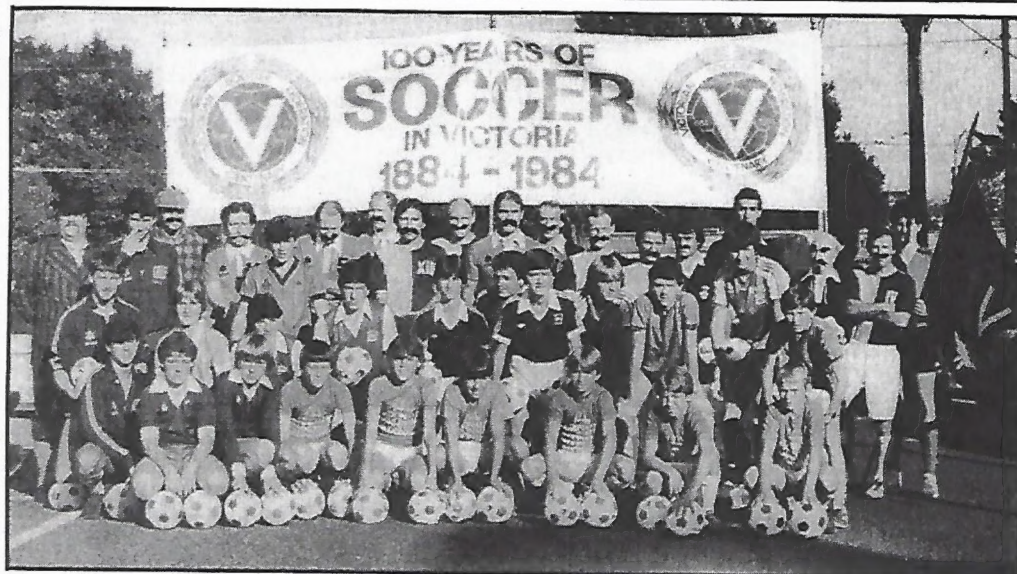
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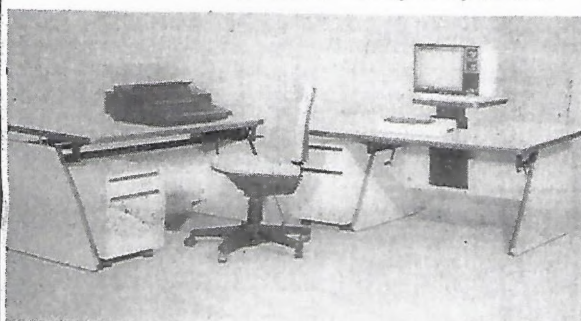
**Sunnyside Bread
is Best**



NSL, State League, Metro League players and coaches pose with juniors before representing the VSL in last Monday's giant Moomba parade in Melbourne. Picture by LES SHORROCK.

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La 'Prima Office Furniture' vi invita a venire ad applaudire la squadra bianconera per l'esordio in campionato.

Hellas v. Croatia videotapes for sale

Video tapes of the recent Buffalo Summer Cup final between Hellas and Croatia are available through the Victorian Soccer Federation.

Copies of the tape will be made only in response to firm orders.

The film covers the entire final, with full commentary.

Players or fans interested in getting a copy should write to the Victorian Soccer Federation, 52 Fitzroy Street, St Kilda, or phone Lew Staface on 366 4911.

Don't go gunning for Frank Arok

VIEWPOINT
By ALEX VESIC



Frank Arok, the manager-coach of St George, and recently-appointed coach of the NSW State side, scored a hat-trick of coaching jobs with the latest appointment as coach and selector of the Australian national team.

Stormy debate preceded his appointment, but after the dust had settled it was clear that Arok was our man and that the unfortunate Les Scheinflug had been ousted.

Sure, it was not done the way most of us would have liked. In fact it was in bad taste to have Scheinflug replaced when he had done nothing wrong. Or has he?

The focus was on "what did Les do wrong?" instead of: "Arok is our man". The ASF panel had the power to do it and if Les had to go, then I am glad that it is Arok who is now in charge, for he certainly has the credentials.

Just ask those players who served under him, or better still, just ask those who are being guided by Arok at present. As for the results achieved by this man — there is no need for comment. Let's just say that he succeeded by taking his side from the doldrums of the State League back into the National League and then proceeded to win all that is there to win in less than two seasons!

Some sneered at his success, some suggested that he played politics, while another suggested that he was the man for the job.

With few exceptions, people who criticised the ASF decision have gone overboard to suggest that Arok had his fingers in engineering the whole damn plot to overthrow Les. I wish that someone at the ASF decided to give us the full story on the subject for I am sick and tired of the whole mess.

As for those coaches who have taken a stick to Arok I have this to say: "You are gunning for the wrong man and it is in bad taste to accuse another coach of wrong-doing, when all he did was accept the position of the national coach after the dismissal of Scheinflug."

Now that Arok is there, let us hope that peace prevails and that the new national coach gets all the help he needs.

Due to the public holiday in Melbourne last Monday, Rocky Di Zio's Viva Italia column is in recess. It will re-appear in next week's issue.

BOX HILL 2 (McDonald 51st, Tolmie 62nd) DONCASTER ROVERS 0 at Wembley Park, Sunday, Dockerty Cup.

BOX HILL: McKinlay 7, Hughes 3, A. Roodhouse 7, I. Roodhouse 7, Hennessy 7, Azopardi 7, Priestley 7, Underwood 6 (Tolmie 58th), Smith 7, Verechia inj. (McDonald 32nd, 7) White 6.

DONCASTER ROVERS: Graham 3, Ooster 6, Teer 7, Casson 7, I. Humble 6, Szell 7, K. Humble 5, Middlemast 6, (Spicer 58 min) Thodis 6, A. Humble 6, Forsyth 5.

In an undistinguished game, it took two players who were brought on as substitutes to score the goals which carried Box Hill into the next round of the Victorian Dockerty Cup.

It was only six minutes after the interval that Box Hill opened its account. Paul Priestley powered his way down the right flank and fired a cross into the Doncas-

Substitutes win it

ter goalmouth. It fell for Matt McDonald, who had replaced Peter Verechia, suffering from tonsillitis, and the little midfielder had no trouble in finding the back of the net.

In the 81st minute Ray Tolmie put the result beyond doubt.

Dean Hennessy was obstructed 25 metres from goal by Ian Humble. McDonald took the resulting free kick, touching the ball to Tolmie who rammed an unstoppable shot into the top right hand corner.

Not that Doncaster had not had its moments. With the game still scoreless Robbie Forsyth had been incredibly unlucky to see his shot, blasted from point blank range, hit John McKinlay in the chest.

— MIKE HARVEY

Millen quits Prahran

Billy Millen quit last week as coach of Metropolitan Third Division club Prahran City.

"I was very disappointed at the club's inability to sign the players I wanted," said Millen.

"The set-up at Prahran is too amateurish. The club is too interested in the social side of things for my liking."

Millen played with Northern Irish club Linfield and English giant Arsenal before coming to Australia and playing with Marconi and Sydney Croatia.

He coached Northcote City in the 1982 State League.

Millen can be contacted during working hours on 267 5059.

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EXCITING SOCCER



THIS WEEKEND MARCH 17-18

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

Brisbane City v Wollongong

at Spencer Park
3 pm Sunday

Previous NSL results
Brisbane City 3 wins
Wollongong 1 win
2 draws



Peter Tokasi



Ray Vlietstra

Melbourne Croatia v Brisbane Lions

Green Gully Reserve
3 pm Sunday

No previous
NSL results



John Walsh



Peter Smith

Preston v Heidelberg

at Connor Reserve
3 pm Sunday

Previous NSL results
Preston 2 wins
Heidelberg 1 win
3 draws



Don Opasins



Ian McKie

South Melbourne v Footscray

at Middle Park
3 pm Sunday

Previous NSL results
South 9 wins
Footscray 2 wins
5 draws



Paul Lewis



Jim Tansley

Sunshine George Cross v Adelaide City

at Chaplin Reserve
3 pm Sunday

No previous
NSL results



Ossie Laif



Les Carter

West Adelaide v Green Gully

at Hindmarsh Stadium
2.30 pm Sunday

No previous
NSL results



Neil McInnes



Robert Cullen

AUSTRALIAN CONFERENCE

Blacktown v Melita Eagles

at Gabbie Stadium
3 pm Sunday

No previous
NSL results



Stuart Selva



Paul Daley

Canberra v Juventus

at Bruce Stadium
3 pm Sunday

No previous
NSL results



Frank Farina



Robert Cullen

St. George v Marconi

at St. George Stadium
3 pm Sunday

Previous NSL results
St. George 3 wins
Marconi 6 wins
3 draws



Terry Greedy



Tony Henderson

Sydney City v Penrith

at Sydney Athletic Field
3 pm Sunday

No previous
NSL results



Jim Carr



Robert Cullen

Sydney Croatia v Sydney Olympic

at
King Tomaslav Park
3pm Sunday

No previous
NSL results



Marian Kovacic



Jim Patikas

Newcastle v Leichhardt

at International Sports
2.30pm Saturday

Previous NSL results
Newcastle 4 wins
Leichhardt 2 wins
4 draws



Ralph Maier



Arno Bertogna